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5 May 1994



JPRS Report

Proliferation Issues

PROLIFERATION ISSUES

JPRS-TND-94-010

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5 May 1994

[This report contains foreign media information on issues related to worldwide proliferation and transfer activities in nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, including delivery systems and the transfer of weapons-relevant technologies.]

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Beijing Strongly Opposes DPRK Nuclear Development

SK1204073794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT 12 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—Wu Xueqian, visiting vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, said Tuesday he believed that North Korea could not develop nuclear weapons even if it wanted to because of Chinese people's opposition.

The senior Chinese official said there would be no nuclear war nor armaments on the Korean peninsula at a lunch meeting with National Assembly Speaker Yi Man-sop.

"China is strongly opposed to it (North Korea's nuclear weapons development)," he was quoted as saying. He stressed a peaceful solution to the problem while acknowledging the difficulties ahead.

Speaker Yi, saying China's growing economy would be affected if war erupted on the Korean peninsula, reiterated Seoul's call for Beijing to play a greater role in persuading Pyongyang to give up its nuclear program.

Wu was invited to a dinner banquet later by ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) Executive Chairman Kim Chong-pil to meet more DLP members.

First Indigenous Nuclear Power Plant Put Into Operation

OW1904171694 Beijing XINHUA in English 1502 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Hangzhou, April 19 (XINHUA)—The Qinshan nuclear power plant, the first designed and built by China itself, has started commercial operation.

According to local officials, the power plant in coastal Zhejiang Province, has so far generated 2.93 billion kwh

of electricity, and the waste gas, waste water and trash produced are far below the limits set by the central government.

The officials attributed the achievement to the effective measures adopted by the Qinshan nuclear power corporation.

For instance, the company has used TV, radio and exhibitions to enhance consciousness of safety in production among workers in a bid to ensure that the nuclear power plant operates safely on a long-term basis.

The Qinshan nuclear power plant started full-load trial operation in July 1992. Its construction began in 1985 and took six years to complete.

Sichuan Nuclear Fuel Production Line Begins Operations

HK2004031494 Chengdu Sichuan People's Radio Network in Mandarin 2300 GMT 11 Apr 94

[Text] The 900-MW large nuclear plant fuel package [zu jian 4809 0115] production line has been comprehensively completed in the Yibin Nuclear Fuel Package Plant and was formally put into production a few days ago. This is a gratifying step toward realizing the goal of equipping the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant with homemade fuel.

As China's only nuclear power plant fuel package production base, since its founding in 1991, the broad masses of workers, cadres, engineers, and technicians in the Yibin Nuclear Fuel Package Plant have labored under an excessive workload and, after two years and seven months of efforts, the plant has smoothly passed the following five rigorous tests one after another: The test by the State Bureau for Nuclear Safety; the simultaneous acceptance test of the three aspects of environmental protection by the State Environmental Protection Bureau; the project construction appraisal by French specialists; the industrial approval test; and the product approval test. The plant will begin to provide the No. 2 Generating Unit of the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant with [words indistinct]. This will enable us to provide large nuclear power plants with as much homemade fuel packages as possible.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ROK Withdraws Demand on Exchange of Envoys With DPRK**Announcement Made***SK1504015994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 15 Apr 94*

[Text] Seoul, April 15 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government announced Friday it has decided to withdraw unconditionally its demand on an inter-Korean envoy exchange as a condition for Pyongyang to hold further high-level talks with Washington.

The decision represents a major concession by South Korea and the United States and will likely raise the pressure on North Korea to allow additional checks of its nuclear facilities.

The government also said it will accept all North Korean escapees from Pyongyang-run logging camps in Siberia wishing to settle here.

ROK Dailies Comment*SK1604065094*

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials carried by ROK vernacular newspapers on 16 April on the ROK Government's withdrawal of the demand for an exchange of envoys before the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Aftermath of the Abandonment of the Proposal that Special Envoys Be Exchanged Before U.S.-North Korean Talks."

The editorial reports that the exchange of special envoys was "not an idea from which one can expect much." It then writes: "We must be wary of the possibility that U.S.-North Korean talks will proceed toward the direction of turning a blind eye to North Korea's possible possession of one or two nuclear weapons."

The editorial continues: "If U.S.-North Korean talks are held as a result of the ROK Government's abandonment of the proposal that special envoys be exchanged before U.S.-North Korean talks, those talks must provide ways to ensure the transparency of the North Korean nuclear issue." It concludes: "We must show North Korea that its efforts toward a military buildup in the post-cold war era will only hasten its own destruction."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Abandonment of the Exchange of Special Envoys and the Reformulation of Policies."

The editorial reports that from the beginning the special envoy exchange plan was unrealistic and inefficient and that even if the North and South had exchanged special

envoys, those envoys would have merely been busy visiting the North and South.

The editorial continues: "The ROK Government must consolidate cooperative relations with the United States and propose North-South dialogue to North Korea, separately from U.S.-North Korean negotiations, to resume the operation of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee to ensure that the North and South pursue mutual inspections and achieve the denuclearization of this region." The editorial continues that the "ROK Government must boldly allow North-South economic cooperation" if North Korea accepts inspections from the International Atomic Energy Agency and special inspections of its two unreported facilities.

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "We Must Lead North Korea to Dialogue."

The editorial describes the government's abandonment of the special envoy plan as an "important change" in the policy toward North Korea. The editorial writes that the abandonment of the special envoy plan can serve as an "efficient means to pressure North Korea," adding: "This is because this may warn North Korea that if it rejects reforms and opening up and pursues its nuclear program, its system can be shaken entirely. It is important for us to find means to lead North Korea to beg for dialogue with South Korea."

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "North Korea Must Take Corresponding Measures."

The editorial first writes that the government's abandonment of the special envoy plan can serve as a "breakthrough in resolving the North Korean nuclear issue." It then asks the related government ministries to realize that North Korea's "ultimate goal is to buy time to develop nuclear weapons, rather than merely using the nuclear card in diplomacy." The editorial concludes: "As long as the reason we abandoned the exchange of special envoys is clear, North Korea must take corresponding measures as a matter of course. It must unconditionally receive additional inspections by early May as demanded by the UN Security Council president's statement. It must no longer try to get concessions from the United States and leave South Korea out in the cold."

DPRK Reaction to Arrival of Patriot Missiles in ROK*SK1904110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 19 Apr 94*

["Perilous Development"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Two transports of the U.S. Navy loaded with Patriot missiles to be deployed in South Korea arrived at Pusan port on Monday, says a report from Seoul.

The unloading of 48 launching pads, 192 Patriot missiles and 84 stinger missiles has begun. Their frontline deployment will reportedly be completed by the 29th of this month.

The second batch of Patriot missiles will shortly arrive to be deployed by the same date, the report says.

The shipment of Patriot to South Korea by the United States and the South Korean puppet clique is a very dangerous development leading the military situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war. This is a vivid indication that the rash scheme of the United States and the Kim Yong-sam traitor clique to overpower our Republic militarily has already entered a practical stage.

Our people and the Asian people are deeply concerned over the reckless military action of the U.S. and the South Korean puppet clique.

The U.S. authorities claim that the Patriot is "a defensive weapon." But it is a nonsense. In the Korean peninsula which is not large, it can also be used as an attack weapon capable of striking any spot. It is known to everyone that the target of its strike can be freely altered by the warhead it is tipped with.

The shipment of the new-type Patriot to South Korea by the United States and the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique is an open new war provocation act to pose a military threat to the DPRK and deal a preemptive strike at it.

The fact proves that the United States, from the very beginning, did not have the intention to solve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula through dialogue and negotiation but has used the problem as an expedient to overpower our Republic, motivated by its outdated hostile policy to stifle it.

In trying to subdue us with the help of outside forces by bringing in without hesitation even the Patriot, a mass destruction weapon, the South Korean puppet clique stands naked once again revealing its ugly color to the world as a never-to-be-condoned flunkeyist traitor and warmaniac.

It is a foolish dream for the United States and the South Korean puppet clique to try to overpower us with strength. It is the unshakable will of our people to answer strength with strength.

The United States and the South Korean puppet clique must not act rashly but promptly stop the deployment of the new-type missiles in South Korea, clearly seeing the unshakable will of our people.

JAPAN

MITI Chief Notes 'Consensus' Against Plutonium Use

OW1904030294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0220 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japan will back down from its plan to promote plutonium use for nuclear recycling, International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai said Tuesday [19 April].

Kumagai was referring to reported calls by the Advisory Committee for Energy, his advisory organ, for reviewing Japan's policy in favor of plutonium use as a way to meet energy demand in the future.

The committee is now formulating a report on Japan's new energy policy by accounting for recent rapid changes in the energy field.

Speaking before a regular press conference, Kumagai said the committee is moving toward a consensus against active use of plutonium.

"Discussion so far by the committee seems to be convincing," Kumagai said.

Japan has come under global criticism for its plutonium policy as leading to nuclear proliferation. Doubt has also been cast at home over the feasibility of commercial use of plutonium. [passage omitted]

Donen Considers Building New Experiment, Research Reactor

OW0704065794 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 6 Apr 94 Evening Edition p 2

[Text] At a news conference held after the "Monju" plutonium-fueled fast breeder reactor reached criticality, Ishiwata Takao, president of the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation [Donen], disclosed that Donen is studying the possibility of building a "recycle experiment reactor" as an experiment and research reactor to replace the "Monju." This will allow Japan to technically handle issues of nuclear nonproliferation as well as environmental problems. The idea under consideration by Donen is that a fast breeder reactor and a spent-fuel reprocessing plant are constructed to simultaneously burn ultra-uranium elements mixed in with spent fuel and plutonium. This idea would remove concerns about the extraction of pure plutonium and its conversion into nuclear weapons.

SOUTH KOREA

Newspapers React to U.S.-ROK Talks on Nuclear Issue

SK1904085894

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular newspapers on 19 April react to the talks on the North Korean nuclear issue

between Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state, and ROK officials, including Nuclear Ambassador Kim Sam-hun, held in Seoul on 18 April.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries a 1,000-word article by reporter Pak Tu-sik on page 3 which welcomes the "simple and clear" demand for North Korea's allowance of additional nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, made in the recent Seoul talks between the ROK and the United States. The article reports: "It seems that, for the time being, the United States and the ROK will concentrate their efforts on creating an atmosphere for North Korea to allow additional inspections by the IAEA."

The article reports that "the United States will strongly demand that South and North Korea hold a dialogue on implementing the declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula" and conduct bilateral nuclear inspection after the third round of U.S.-North Korea talks, "which will likely be held in Geneva in May as soon as the IAEA inspection team enters North Korea if North Korea meets the IAEA demand."

The article also expects that "the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Committee will be held if the North Korea-IAEA and North Korea-U.S. dialogue is successfully held" and that "this will make progress in resolving the nuclear issue."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries a 400-word article by Chong Pyong-chin on page 1 which reports that in the 18 April talks, the ROK "asked the United States to propose a contact with North Korea first" and that the United States said it "will consider proposing to North Korea to hold a contact before the end of this week." The article concludes by noting that "it is highly possible for North Korea and the United States to hold a contact in New York sometime this week."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries a 900-word article by Pak Chong-mun on page 2 on the result of the talks between Robert Gallucci and ROK Government officials. While reporting that the ROK and the United States "failed to make any clear decision" on the nuclear issue, the South-North dialogue, and the U.S.-North Korea talks, the article notes as a "tangible result" of the talks that the ROK and U.S. authorities "have shared the view that the U.S.-North Korea talks and South-North dialogue should be promoted in a harmonious way of complementary cooperation." Pointing out the "inevitability of sharing a view on South-North dialogue between the ROK and the United States" because of the linkage between South-North dialogue and the U.S. interests, the article stresses additional agreements on South-North dialogue must be reached between the ROK and the United States if North Korea allows additional nuclear inspections.

The article expects no tangible result for resolving the nuclear issue from U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry's upcoming visit to the ROK, noting the "flexible situation" regarding this issue.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO also carries reporter Kang Yong-chin's 1,000-word article expecting that a working-level contact will be held between the United States and North Korea before the end of this week. Citing an unidentified government official's remarks, the article reports that the United States will no longer allow North Korea to "attempt to stall for time" since, through repeated negotiations with North Korea, the United States is now able to easily grasp North Korea's intent.

First Shipment of Patriot Missiles Arrive in Pusan *SK1804025794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0251 GMT 18 Apr 94*

[Text] Pusan, South Korea, April 18 (YONHAP)—Two U.S. Navy transport ships carrying Patriot missiles arrived in the southeastern port of Pusan on Monday [18 April].

The 13,000-ton "Comet" and 16,460-ton "Meteor" left the U.S. Navy Base in Oakland bound for Pusan on March 23, with an undisclosed number of Patriot launch pads and other equipment aboard.

These missiles, in addition to others due to arrive sometime in the future, are expected to be deployed at military bases here by April 29, military officials said.

The Patriot anti-missile missiles are a more advanced version than those used during the Gulf war in 1991.

A military official said, "the Patriot anti-missile missiles will considerably reinforce the air defense capability here. It is the most effective defense system against possible air attack."

Papers on Patriot Deployment, Team Spirit Resumption *SK2104082994*

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports published in Seoul vernacular newspapers on 21 April reacting to the decision to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise and the deployment of Patriot missiles.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "North Korea Should Understand the Significance of the Decision on Team Spirit." Asserting that the most effective means to counter the North Korean nuclear issue is firm coordination between the ROK and the United States, the editorial writes military cooperation between the two countries is imperative in the current situation.

The editorial welcomes the decision of ROK and U.S. defense ministers to strengthen combined war preparedness writing that it is a very timely tuning of strategy as suspicions surrounding North Korea's nuclear development have not been cleared.

Defining the resumption of the Team Spirit exercise as an "inevitable decision," the editorial stresses that "such a security coordination system should remain firm until it is confirmed that North Korea has no nuclear weapons," and that "North Korea should stop trying to avoid nuclear inspections with various excuses."

The editorial shows concern over foreign reports that the United States asked the ROK to be armed with modern weapons as the selection of weapons should be decided by the ROK, not the United States.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Reinforcement of Defense Posture is Fundamental."

The editorial welcomes the decision of the ROK and U.S. defense ministers to resume the Team Spirit exercise and to reinforce the combined forces saying that it was a "natural," "inevitable," and "appropriate" decision.

Regarding the issue of purchasing more modern arms, the editorial writes the decision should be made according to ROK's conditions and abilities, adding that the Yulgok project may be adjusted but should not be influenced by U.S. defense industry's demands.

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Unlimited Armament Competition is Not Appropriate."

Consenting to the theory that military superiority deters war, the editorial writes, however, making the Korean peninsula an unlimited exhibition place of modern arms cannot be tolerated.

Noting the remarks of Edward Warner, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, that modern heavy arms will be deployed to the ROK by the end of summer, the editorial writes the United States is trying to deploy another new weapon after safely deploying Patriot missiles as a result of the "sea of fire" remarks by North Korea.

The editorial writes the current situation cannot be described as a crisis, citing Kim Il-song's recent appeasement remarks and the fact that South Koreans were not threatened by the "sea of fire" remarks. The editorial notes that it is the United States that more frequently talks about the possibility of war on the Korean peninsula.

The editorial concludes by warning that "excessive deployment of modern arms might stimulate North Korea's desire to develop nuclear weapons to overcome the gap in military capacity in a single blow."

TAIWAN

Premier Stresses Island Not To Develop Nuclear Weapons

OW1204141994 Taipei CNA in English 1331 GMT
12 Apr 94

[Report by Bvenjamin Yeh]

[Text] Taipei, April 12 (CNA)—Premier Lien chan emphasized Tuesday that the Republic of China [ROC] is a peace-loving country and has no plans to manufacture nuclear weapons.

"This is the principle the government has adhered to and it should be understood by the world," Lien said in reply to an inquiry on the issue by Democratic Progressive Party legislator Chou Po-lung.

Although Chou is an opponent of Taiwan's fourth nuclear power plant project, he nevertheless suggested that the government accelerate the development of nuclear devices as a hedge against the Mainland Chinese threat.

"Peace in the region can be maintained only by the creation of mutual assurance of destruction over the skies of the Taiwan Strait," Chou said.

He said developing nuclear weapons is necessary if Taiwan wants to be independent of Mainland China. He warned, however, that announcing independence without a deterrent force to back up the proclamation would invite disaster.

Army To Purchase 200 Patriot Missiles From U.S.

OW1904112094 Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese
14 Apr 94 p 1

[Report by reporter Lu Chao-lung (0712 2507 7127)]

[Text] Taipei—It was disclosed that the Army will spend more than NT\$ [New Taiwan Dollars] 10 billion for the purchase of 200 Patriot missiles of an improved version to equip three missile companies to be deployed in northern Taiwan to guard against tactical missiles and air defense. The Patriot is the only missile that has had actually been able to counterstrike other missiles.

During a luncheon with Legislator Wang Tien-chin yesterday [13 April], Lt. General Chang Kuang-chin, deputy commander in chief of the Army, and other high-ranking Army officers briefed him in detail about the purchasing plan. The Army was quite impressed with Wang's recent rather professional questions on Patriot missiles.

It was disclosed that, after extensive assessment, the Army is able to combat the problem of launching Patriot missiles even under circumstances that the Republic of China [ROC] lacks satellite navigation for missile launching. A high-ranking general also confirmed that

the launching of Patriot missiles will not be affected by lack of satellite navigation. Army officers also learned from a study trip in the United States last July that the U.S. Army does not consider the Patriot outdated and will continue to improve the missile.

Regarding how accurate the missile is in hitting a target, information provided by the Army shows that Patriot missiles can be 40 to 70 percent accurate in hitting a target. The information is based on various sources,

including briefings at the U.S. Congress given by an assistant chief of staff of the U.S. tactical planning units.

It was pointed out that Patriot missiles have been improved four times and the system the ROC Army will purchase is the latest. On the basis of the tactical capabilities it demonstrated in the Persian Gulf War, this model has gone through the U.S. Army's tactical tests and thus has a better launching control system.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Controversy Over Allegations of CW Use

Serbs Accuse Muslims

AU0904142294 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network
in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 9 Apr 94

[Jelena Dabarcic report]

[Text] Fighting between the Army of Serbian Republic [of Bosnia-Herzegovina] and members of the so-called Army of Bosnia-Herzegovina is taking place on a part of the front between Gorazde, Cajnice, and Foca. The worst fighting is taking place in the Obrecevo region and along the Drina river, between Vitkovici and Foca, where the Muslim units are trying to recapture the positions that they lost.

In addition to using all the available arms, the Muslims are also using chemical agents produced in the gold-smithing plant in Vitkovici. The Serbian military sources claim that these agents are produced with the most primitive technology. The Serbian fighters who crushed the strong Muslim offensive from Gorazde, involving some 10,000 well-armed Alija's [Izetbegovic] soldiers, are continuing to rout the Muslim forces from the torched Serbian villages on the right bank of the Drina.

Muslims Accuse Serbs

AU1004124494 Paris AFP in English 0100 GMT
10 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Sarajevo, April 10 (AFP)—The Moslem-led Bosnian presidency Saturday [9 April] evening accused Serbs of killing "many people" in a gas attack on the eastern Moslem-held enclave of Gorazde.

A spokesman for the presidency here was unable to give casualty figures, saying reports varied widely with some mentioning thousands of dead.

In Istanbul, Bosnian Vice-President Eyup Ganic told AFP that "hundreds" of people had been killed during the course of three chemical attacks on Gorazde on Saturday. "This is genocide under UN supervision," he said.

Ganic added that he would be flying to New York on Sunday, at the demand of President Alija Izetbegovic, to demand an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council. [passage omitted]

Serbs Deny Charges

LD1004172894 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1716 GMT 10 Apr 94

[Text] Cajnice, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—Units of the [Bosnian] Serb army have not entered Gorazde, and they

are not firing on the town, the command of the Herzegovina Corps announced this evening, denying the news broadcast by Muslim media and quoted by some world news agencies.

Officials in the Herzegovina Corps command claim that the reports that the Serb army is using poison gases are also untrue. The same command says that the truth is that Muslims have recently used poison gases—made in the fertilizer factory in Vitkovici—in the battles south of Gorazde.

UN Rejects Muslim Claims

AU1004125594 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT
10 Apr 94

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [UNPROFOR Spokesman] Rob Annink poured cold water on accusations by Bosnian leaders that the enclave had been hit by chemical gas. "We think it was smoke grenades, probably M84's for 120mm mortar guns," he said.

The Bosnian presidency accused Serbs Saturday evening of killing "many people" in a gas attack.

Bosnian Serb military leaders denied the charges, accusing the Bosnian army of using tear gas in the Bokovo region earlier this month. [passage omitted]

CZECH REPUBLIC

Skoda Dismantles Research Nuclear Reactor, Seeks Buyer

AU1304085894 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
1 Apr 94 p 8

["(rc)"]-signed report: "The Skoda Plant Is Liquidating Its Research Reactor"

[Text] The Plzen Skoda factory is liquidating its SR research reactor in Vochov near Plzen, including spent fuel and unused fuel. The reactor is of their own construction and manufacture and was used from 1970 until 1989. This information was provided to RUDE PRAVO by Engineer Frantisek Svitak, deputy director of the Skoda Nuclear Engineering Plant in Plzen. The Skoda plant does not need the reactor any more. It was used to test various measuring methods and devices, to train reactor operators, to train students from the West Bohemian University, and to conduct radiation testing for the republican Civil Defense organization.

Despite the fact that the reactor is not contaminated (it was reconstructed in 1986, and was not put into operation after that date), all legal standards must be met during the liquidation of the workplace in Vochov. Regulations regarding the handling of fuel are equally strict. The State Office for Nuclear Safety in Prague and the International Agency for Atomic Energy in Vienna

supervise fuel handling. Moreover, any fuel handling must not contravene the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Materials.

Currently, they have about 10 kilograms of uranium 235 in sandwich-type metallic fuel at the Skoda plant. The Slovak Technical university has shown interest in the reactor and fuel. Because of the lack of funds on the part of the customer, however, the negotiations failed. Prospective buyers in Germany have also shown interest, but did not meet requirements. The Nuclear Research Institute in Rez near Prague is currently interested in the reactor. According to Engineer Svitak, The Skoda plant is conducting the most promising negotiations with two French firms that would like to buy the research reactor and the fuel.

Government To Respect UN Arms Embargos

*AU1804183394 Prague CESKY DENIK in Czech
14 Apr 94 p 2*

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Alexandr Vondra by Stanislav Cervinka; place and date not given: "The Czech Republic Will Not Export Arms Into Countries Embargoed by the UN"]

[Text] After his return from his 12-day visit to Syria, Pakistan, and Iraq, Deputy Foreign Minister Alexandr Vondra pointed to the key influence of these countries. In this connection we asked him:

Cervinka: You stressed that the Czech Republic does not export arms to Iran. Does this also apply to Syria and Pakistan?

Vondra: The Czech Republic has not exported any large volumes of military technology to these countries recently. Spare parts for the previously delivered technology is an exception. In the future, similar deals will be regulated by applicable laws. Each and every deal will be judged separately on the basis of this law. This law does not include a list of off-limits countries. In no case will the Czech Republic export arms to countries on which the UN has imposed an embargo. In the case of other countries, the foreign policy aspects of each and every deal will be considered.

Cervinka: How do you view developments regarding the Czech Republic's claims in the Middle East?

Vondra: It is extremely difficult to assess such a situation. The Czech Republic, as one of the successor states after Czechoslovakia, inherited claims that had been established in past decades due to the fact that Czechoslovakia, as a Warsaw Pact member, supplied many developing countries with various goods. Economic considerations, essential in foreign trade, were either secondary or totally unimportant in such cases. Many Third World countries still do not perceive past deals as normal business, but as assistance provided to them by the then Soviet bloc to maintain balance in the world, or develop their economy. This does not mean, however, that the Czech Republic will waive its claims. If we are to retain our chance of getting paid for our claims in the future, we have to search for ways that will encourage future cooperation that will be acceptable to both sides. I am convinced that this is the situation in those Middle East countries on which the UN embargo has not been imposed. This cooperation, however, will not continue in the spirit of the strategic intentions of the former Soviet bloc.

BRAZIL

Government To Dismantle Angra-1 Nuclear Plant in 15 Years

PY0904023994 *Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO* in Portuguese 7 Apr 94 p A16

[Article by Tania Melheiros]

[Text] Rio—Edgar Kircher, the Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc. [Furnas] adviser for environmental security, has reported that Angra-1 will probably be dismantled in about 15 years, or in other words around the year 2009.

Furnas failed to earn a profit of nearly \$100 million (97.7 billion real cruzeiros) as a result of the fact that Angra-1 nuclear plant has been closed for more than a year without producing any electrical energy. This energy should have been connected to the electricity system serving the southeastern region of the country. Angra-1 can produce energy equivalent to 20 percent of the electricity consumed in the city of Rio de Janeiro. Furnas experts said that "this loss is not really a loss, but a profit the company failed to make."

Angra-1 construction costs totalled about \$2 billion, but through having been disconnected over 30 times due to faulty parts and equipment and to comply with court orders, the plant has already forced the government to spend much more than that. Concrete figures, however, have never been reported. Kleber Cosenza, head of the Furnas Power Generation Department, reported that Angra-1 fuel—enriched uranium purchased from Urenco (a consortium from Germany, England, and the Netherlands)—alone cost Furnas \$20 million last year. Another \$5 million were spent in repairing the plant.

Cosenza added that Angra-1 is undergoing final tests for being put into operation again in 20 days. According to him, the plant is theoretically ready to be put into operation. To do so, however, Furnas needs the authorization of the National Nuclear Energy Commission and the conclusion of the emergency plan to evacuate Angra dos Reis residents in case of an accident. The evacuation plan is about to be finished, and has undergone a series of modifications, Cosenza said.

Luiz Henrique Goncalves de Moraes, assistant at the Furnas Thermonuclear Generation Superintendency, said that this plan has to be reviewed so that Angra-1 can again operate. According to him, the new plan meets the requirements of the international concept establishing that in case of an accident, residents living in a 3 km radius around the plant must be evacuated.

He reported that the latest data reported by the Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics, IBGE, indicate that nearly 9,000 people live in this area. In accordance with the new plan, monitoring teams will determine small areas at a radius of 5 km to 15 km around the plant to be isolated. He said that in accordance with IBGE data nearly 70,000 people currently live in this wider area.

On the night of 5 April, Furnas experts visited Angra-1 facilities during a visit made to the plant by a group of Sao Paulo environmental experts.

New Subterranean Silo Will Hold Angra Atomic Waste

PY0804220494 *Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO* in Portuguese 8 Apr 94 p A12

[Article by "T.M."]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—The National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) has asked the United Nations for \$500,000 (492.8 million cruzeiros) to construct a subterranean silo to store the atomic waste produced by Angra-1 for the next 15 years, until the plant is dismantled.

This was confirmed on 7 April by Ayrton Cauby, the CNEN's Licensing and Control superintendent. He indicated that the United Nations has specific resources to help developing countries like Brazil to resolve their atomic waste problems.

When dismantled, the plant itself will be stored in the silo. The atomic waste produced in the Rio de Janeiro-Sao Paulo axis will also be stored there. The Angra-1 reactor will remain in the Angra nuclear complex, wrapped in special layers of concrete. Cauby reported that experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)—based in Vienna, Austria—will visit Brazil in May to help choose the site for the silo.

He said the CNEN also asked the IAEA for financial help. It released \$100,000 (98.5 million cruzeiros) for the initial work that will be carried out in 1994 and 1995.

Cauby said the CNEN's top priority is to develop the subterranean silo, which will not be constructed in Angra dos Reis (RJ) [Rio de Janeiro State]. He said: "IAEA experts and technicians will choose the site for the silo to store the waste produced in Sao Paulo."

Brazil Space, Nuclear, S&T Notes

94P20672

[Excerpts]

Russian Envoy on Trade Obstacles, Space Projects

Russian Ambassador to Brazil Iosif N. Podrazhanets, who recently assumed the post, believes that it will be very difficult to raise the level of commercial trade between the two countries, currently ranging between \$300 million and \$400 million, the Sao Paulo daily GAZETA MERCANTIL reported in its 31 March-4 April issue. The reasons were cited as threefold: political instability in Russia, which keeps Brazilian investors away; shipping costs, which are higher than in the trade between Brazil and the United States; and a deficiency in providing sufficient stimulus to the space sector. Russia, GAZETA continued, is determined to cooperate with

Brazil in creating an infrastructure by supplying technology and equipment for the satellite launch vehicle project. Russia also wants to participate in the Amazon protection and surveillance project, but it lacks the resources to finance equipment sales.

The protocol of intent, signed between Brazil and Russia in December 1993 and intended to increase bilateral trade to \$2 billion annually, has not yet "gotten off the ground," according to Ambassador Podrazhanets, due to difficulties in finding the mechanisms necessary to implement the project, particularly resources. "It's difficult to find the right products for that type of trade," he said.

In May or June, Podrazhanets continued, the Russian minister of atomic energy will visit Brazil, and in the ensuing months, a joint economic and commercial commission meeting will be held, during which Russia will discuss its interest in increasing cooperation in the areas of space, energy, and mining.

Cuba Signs S&T Accords With State Governments

An article in the Sao Paulo daily O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO of 22 March announced that the Cuban and Sao Paulo State Governments will begin an S&T exchange program in April that will bring a number of Cuban specialists to Sao Paulo state universities. In the article, Secretary Roberto Muller of the Secretariat of Science, Technology, and Economic Development remarked: "We are particularly interested in the transfer of Cuban technology for the development of research in DNA and genetic engineering for plants." The exchange program is a result of discussions held on 18 March between visiting Cuban Minister of Higher Education Fernando Vecino Alegret and Secretary Muller, University of Campinas (Unicamp) Rector Carlos Vogt, and Sao Paulo State University (Unesp) Rector Arthur Roquete de Macedo. Secretary Muller further commented that the Sao Paulo state government is also interested in the use of sugarcane waste to generate thermal energy, as well as the mastery of techniques to increase the shelf life of cement. The agreement signed with Cuba was modeled along the lines of the accord signed with the Russian Government, O ESTADO continued. According to Muller, the secretariat is already studying the possibility of bringing in additional researchers, and will shortly be meeting with university rectors to review the situation.

CNEN, Scientists Favor Quadripartite Safeguards Accord

Prior to the 9 February Brazilian Senate's approval of the quadripartite nuclear safeguards agreement (QSA) between Brazil, Argentina, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN), President Marcio Costa and various scientists commented favorably on the agreement's impending Senate ratification in Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO of 8 February. O ESTADO began by quoting a press

statement made in Rio on 7 February by CNEN President Marcio Costa supporting the Senate's ratification of the QSA which will authorize international inspections of Brazilian nuclear installations. Although he opined that Brazil will lose sovereignty in the nuclear area, the CNEN head said that he was in favor of its ratification in order to avoid retaliations by First World countries. Costa criticized Germany, which had earlier threatened to break the 1975 Brazil-FRG nuclear accord, suspend the transfer of technology, and withdraw support for Brazil obtaining a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. "They pulled off the worst swindle in the country with that technology transfer story."

O ESTADO then went on to quote Ennio Candotti, former president and member of the council of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (SBPC), as saying that Brazil should ratify the quadripartite accord and the Treaty of Tlatelolco. "But it is important," he added, "to extend those agreements to the countries that today hold arsenals of nuclear arms such as the United States, France, Britain, and Germany itself." Candotti then commented on Germany's threats: "I didn't even know that a nuclear accord with Germany was still in effect, so numerous have been the mistakes earmarking the 1975 treaty that provided for the construction of eight power plants." Furthermore, he added, "a seat on the UN Security Council is not acquired through bartering agreements and disagreements."

Professor Giorgio Moscati, head of the Physics Institute's Experimental Physics Department of the University of Sao Paulo (USP), believes that Brazil should ratify the accords, O ESTADO continued. "There is no reason for the country not to open up for a peaceful program and open itself up to international inspections," he remarked. Then Brazil will, in return, be able to demand that it cease being discriminated against in imports of products that may have a military application, he added. O ESTADO then noted that Professor Ivan Cunha Nascimento, head of the USP Applied Physics Department, is of the same opinion. "The accord should be ratified, simply because Brazil is discriminated against internationally and consequently does not have access to state of the art technology that may have a military application." He further explained that "Brazil is considered a 'sensitive' country abroad for having a nuclear program that is neither known nor inspected."

ARGENTINA

Country's Atomic Facilities Inventoried

PY120421/94 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
10 Apr 94 Economic Supplement p 8

[Unattributed article: "What Is the CNEA: Atomic Inventory"]

[Text] The CNEA [National Atomic Energy Commission] includes:

—Three nuclear plants (Atucha-I and Embalse, in operation, and Atucha-II, under construction)

—Three atomic centers (Bariloche, Constituyentes, and Ezeiza).

—Eight associated enterprises (INVAP [Applied Research Institute], Coratec [expansion unknown], ALTEC [expansion unknown], ENACE [Argentine Nuclear Enterprise for Electrical Power Plants], Nuclear Mendoza, CONUAR [Argentine Nuclear Fuel Corporation, Inc.], FAESA [expansion unknown], and ENSI [expansion unknown]).

—A uranium concentrate plant (San Rafael).

—A manufacturing plant (Cordoba, for the manufacture of uranium dioxide).

—A heavy water industrial plant (Neuquen).

—A pilot plant for enriching uranium (Pilcaniyeu).

—Three reactors for research and training (Constituyentes, Bariloche, and Pilcaniyeu).

—A reactor that produces radioisotopes (Ezeiza).

—A semi-industrial multipurpose plant for irradiating foodstuffs and industrial material and for the sterilization of disposable biomedical products (Ezeiza).

—A 20 million-volt particle accelerator for basic research (Tandar Laboratory).

—Several centers for training human resources.

—A nuclear medicine school in Mendoza.

—A center for training nuclear and physics engineers (Balseiro Institute, Bariloche).

Atucha-I Nuclear Plant

—Net power: 337 net megawatts.

—Design: AECL (Canadian).

—Located at Embalse Rio Tercero, 100 km southwest of the capital city of Cordoba.

This plant's design allows the production of the cobalt-60 radioisotope as part of the process. This radioisotope is used in medicine, agriculture, industry, and the preservation of the environment.

Argentina has 8 percent of the world market for this radioisotope, and since 1986 it has been exported to, among other countries, the United States, France, Belgium, Colombia, and other American countries.

Atucha-II Nuclear Plant (Under Construction)

—Power: 745 gross megawatts, 692 net megawatts.

—Design: Siemens-KWU.

—Work progress on 21 December 1993: 86.5 percent of the total work.

—Personnel working in February 1994: 3,664 workers.

In addition, the CNEA participates as an associate in the following enterprises: INVAP S.A. [Applied Research Institute], Nuclear Mendoza SE, ENLACE S.A., CONVAR S.A., ALTEC SE., FAE S.A., Coratec SE., and ENSI SE.

Agreement Outlines Privatization of Nuclear Power Plants

PY1204202194 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
10 Apr 94 Economic Supplement p 5

[Text] The agreement between the Energy Secretariat, headed by Carlos Bastos, and the National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA], headed by Manuel Mondino, materialized in a sort of legal document establishing the steps to be taken for the transformation of nuclear activities, particularly those having to do with the generation of electricity. The following is the text of this document, which constitutes an inarguable victory for the privatization drive pursued by the Economy Ministry:

"The CNEA needs streamlining and reorganizing to adapt to the (electricity) market. This demands splitting two large areas of activity—namely the control and licensing of nuclear power plants, and production, research, and development activities—into different organizations."

"For the former it would be possible to establish a unit that would come under the jurisdiction of the federal government, with resources from the National Treasury plus the fees or royalties that this unit would charge to companies subject to control."

"The other activities would be entrusted to one or more joint stock companies subject to commercial laws. In other words, they would act as individuals under private law, and would therefore be affected by the bankruptcy act."

"Initially, all the shares of these companies will belong to the state."

"The preceding paragraph means that the state will not contribute—through the Treasury—funds to finance any expenditures to be incurred by these companies."

"The Treasury will contribute the necessary funds to conclude the construction of the Atucha-2 power plant, according to a budget that will be put together in the future."

"The shares, which will initially be controlled by the state, will be sold to private investors on the stock exchange at a later stage (same procedure as YPF [Government Oil Deposits])."

"The expansion of the nuclear sector will be accomplished through private investments in new power plants."

"Once the unit responsible for the control of nuclear power plants is operational, current and future power plants will be subject to the same control provisions."

Official Views Atomic Energy Agency's Privatization

*PY1204232594 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
10 Apr 94 Economic Supplement p 6, 7*

[Interview with Energy Secretary Carlos Bastos by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text]

CLARIN: Will the CNEA [National Commission for Atomic Energy] be privatized?

Bastos: Let us begin with something more basic. Let us discuss the prospects for nuclear energy. When organizing the field, the state reserved for itself the role of supervising private activities and determining policies. For most countries where this activity is being developed with the private sector, nuclear energy is considered one of the future options to satisfy energy demand. In Argentina we developed our own nuclear industry, with our own technicians, heavy water fuel, and companies. It would be a grave mistake to waste all this wealth. The Energy Secretariat, as the agency responsible for determining policies, is deeply interested in seeing nuclear energy as one of the future energy options in Argentina.

CLARIN: There is a study conducted by the Mediterranean Foundation headed by Juan Novara saying that the CNEA is not competitive and that nuclear energy is expensive, dirty, and is being abandoned throughout the world. Is this not contrary to what you just said?

Bastos: Fortunately, we have had differences of opinion at the Mediterranean Foundation and each one can freely voice one's opinion. Yes, it is a little bit contradictory. I do not fully share Novara's views.

CLARIN: But the International Atomic Energy Agency contends that 100 nuclear power plants are under construction at present.

Bastos: I am not an expert in that field, but to talk about 100 nuclear power plants is a bit too much. I do not believe that such a number of power plants is under construction ...

CLARIN: The report specifically states that there are 72 power stations under construction and another 54, the construction of which already has been approved ...

Bastos: I could not give you precise data. What I do know, however, is that all industrial countries are trying to devise ways to lower the cost of future nuclear projects by trying to build a series of nuclear power plants having

a standard design and improving security. In this regard, I disagree with Novara's assertion that atomic energy is expensive. Well, it is indeed expensive now because a barrel of oil costs \$14. If the price rises to \$20, things would change completely.

CLARIN: And how will nuclear activities move ahead?

Bastos: That is the key issue. The industry's organization is based on the participation of the private sector in risk ventures. It does not pertain to the state engaging in risk undertakings. The state is interested in developing nuclear activities but without participating as an entrepreneur. The CNEA cannot continue functioning as it is now; it must be restructured. At present it combines control with business activities and receives money from the Treasury for investments. It has been decided that the CNEA will be restructured so as to separate regulatory from business activities. This will have been concluded by December.

CLARIN: Will they be privatized then?

Bastos: That is totally reasonable. With our way of [answer incomplete as published]

CLARIN: Incorporating private capital or selling the shares of the private stock company?

Bastos: In the privatization of companies in the field, like Segba [Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services] for example, we made what is known as a strategic sale of shares. We sold a percentage of the shares and the companies' control was transferred to the buyers of those shares. We took that line of action because it was impossible to reorganize those public companies within the framework of the state. Is the CNEA now in a similar situation to that of Segba? The answer is no because nuclear power plants are in an excellent situation. They have plenty of financial resources at their disposal, which shows that there are top-quality operation and maintenance groups. So what do we stand to gain by transferring the management of these nuclear power plants? Very little. Our first attempt to transfer the CNEA to the private sector will be made along the same lines as YPF [Government Oil Deposits].

CLARIN: How much do you estimate CNEA Inc. would be worth?

Bastos: The CNEA has a positive flow of funds amounting to slightly over \$200 million annually.

CLARIN: Once Atucha-II is operational its value will increase considerably.

Bastos: That is precisely the point. It is very difficult to make an estimate because it depends on the investments that will be made to complete Atucha-II. Nevertheless, let us suppose that of the \$200 million, the net cash flow totals \$90 million. With a rate of return for seven years, it would add up to \$600 million, which in turn is what we estimated is missing to complete Atucha-II.

CLARIN: That is a very low estimate. The CNEA contributed \$8.5 billion compared with the \$600 million that could be obtained from the selling of all the shares.

Bastos: We go back to the starting point, when we said atomic energy is expensive. I said it was because a barrel of crude today costs \$14 and these estimates are based on this oil price. If the price climbs to \$20 or \$30, things will change. Even so I would not venture to say that it is a total loss.

CLARIN: But \$600 million compared with \$8.5 billion ...

Bastos: Yes, it is true. We are not taking into account how much the Atucha-I and Embalse Rio Tercero power plants produced, whether a very low price was paid, and whether the benefits were transferred to consumers. State Water and Power Enterprise and Segba had debts to the CNEA that were not totally repaid ...

CLARIN: The CNEA argues that they owe it \$500 million ...

Bastos: In all likelihood the federal government was the one that remained as a debtor, but at the same time the CNEA also granted some type of credit to the government [as published]. Therefore, the best thing to do is start everything fresh.

CLARIN: I insist, do you not think that \$600 million is a very low price for two nuclear power plants that are already operational, Atucha-II—70 percent of which is already completed, and other industrial plants?

Bastos: I do not think so. It depends on many things. We will never have a 100 percent return on investment for Atucha-II because it is a capital-intensive sector. When there are construction delays, the costs are terrible and one has to forego obtaining a 100 percent return on investment. Is the CNEA to blame for the cost of Atucha-II? It is not entirely to blame for it. The power plant's construction involves the handling of 40 or more contracts. During the times of hyperinflation, most of them were paralyzed.

CLARIN: Do you approve of Manuel Mondino as a likely executive manager of CNEA Inc.?

Bastos: I am going to give you the opinion of a teammate. From the technical standpoint, I think that all the CNEA staff is excellent. The only criticism I might have is that they need more knowledge about business administration, but they can be quickly trained in this field.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Pakistani Paper Criticizes Delhi-Talbott Talks

BK1004115194 Islamabad *THE NATION* in English
10 Apr 94 p 6

[Editorial: "U.S. and Indian Concerns"]

[Text] To articulate the outcome of U.S.-India talks held by Mr. Talbott in New Delhi, India used not Dinesh Singh, its Foreign Minister, but its Minister of State, Salman Khursheed. Not because Dinesh Singh is less competent but that is India's way to telling the world that despite the massacre of Muslims in Kashmir and elsewhere in India (the latest was Bombay), it has no animus against the Muslim. For one thing, having a few Muslim quislings on its side keeps the facade of Indian secularism alive and for another, people like Khursheed and Farooq Abdullah can always be relied upon to be more loyal than the king. After having shot down every proposal that Mr. Talbott made for peace in the Subcontinent, the Indians it seems used the opportunity to convey to the U.S. their desire to be recognised as a mini-superpower with all its concomitants—nuclear weapons, large army, etc. That Mr. Talbott was predisposed to buy that can be gleaned by some of the observations he made. Referring to India's "strong democratic tradition, its size, its growing economic strength," he said that it "is a leader well beyond the confines of this region." Let us compare that with what Mr. Khursheed said. He said that a fresh "geographic definition of the region," was called for because India's "concerns go beyond Pakistan." Having accepted that premise, Mr. Talbott went on to place India at par with Germany and Japan in their claims for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council [SC]. Yet neither Germany nor Japan is, as of now, in occupation of a disputed territory, nor has either been accused of massive human rights abuses, nor has either waged a war against a weaker neighbour. Both are in favour of nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament. India's claim to eminence rests on its refusal to accept UN Resolutions or any mediation in its disputes with neighbours, has a well-documented record of human rights violations and is opposed to disarmament and NPT. And yet such is the allure that its potential market has for the United States that the United States arm-twist Pakistan to give up its major security concerns because these could come in the way of India's march to a mini-superpower status. So far as a permanent SC seat to anyone other than the big five is concerned, the claim of the Muslim bloc of over 50 countries is as good as anyone else's.

The American case, it seems, is that Pakistan should give up its nuclear plans while the Indians retain their, Pakistan should not get the warplanes it has already paid for, or the missiles to counter the Indian stockpile, because it would slightly reduce the advantage that India has against everyone in the region and to regain that advantage India will have to divert its precious economic

resources. Mr. Talbott presumably did not get the opportunity to ask Mr. Khursheed how much of its precious resources it is already diverting in order to keep an overwhelming advantage against its much smaller and weaker neighbours. The highly persuasive point that Mr. Khursheed makes is: "Sophisticated weapons acquired by Pakistan have been used only against India." True, but where has India used its highly sophisticated weapons, of which it has far more? Logic, unfortunately, is not India's strongest forte, where its hegemonic ambitions are concerned. The United States too has, it seems, to address concerns of realpolitik and not political morality.

Israeli Minister Says Egypt Posing Difficulties Over Nuclear Issue

TA1104083994 Jerusalem *Qol Yisra'el* in Hebrew
0700 GMT 11 Apr 94

[Text] The Labor Knesset faction is currently in session to discuss the possibility that Knesset Member Hayim Ramon may announce that he, Amir Peretz, and Shmuel Avital will run in the Histadrut elections on a separate list. The discussion is being held behind closed doors.

Before the doors closed, Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin reported that Egypt is introducing difficulties in the multinational talks on the nuclear issue. He said the Egyptians try to raise the issue of nonconventional weapons at every international forum.

Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that Beilin defined Yasir 'Arafat's failure to condemn the 'Afula murders as stupid.

IRAN

IAEA Director Blix Visits Tehran for Official Talks**Blix Meets Amrollahi**

LD1804144994 Tehran *IRNA* in English 1439 GMT
18 Apr 94

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA—Head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, Reza Amrollahi, and secretary general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Hans Blix, discussed declaring the Middle East region a nuclear free zone (NFZ) Monday.

At the meeting Blix welcomed Iran's proposal on promoting technical cooperation between Iran and IAEA.

Blix arrived here Monday morning to hold talks with Iranian officials on joint cooperation.

During his two day stay here Blix is expected to hold discussions with senior Iranian officials.

Amrollahi on Blix Meeting

*LD1904183994 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT
19 Apr 94*

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA—Iran's proposal to declare the Middle East a nuclear free zone requires participation and cooperation of all the regional countries, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Reza Amrollahi said here Tuesday.

Interviewed by IRNA, Amrollahi elaborated on Iran's proposal to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Amrollahi said that regarding atomic threat of the Zionist regime and its nonpeaceful utilization of nuclear technology as well as its noncompliance with the international regulations Iran, has offered the proposal to declare the Middle East region a nuclear free zone.

He added that the proposal was on the agenda in the annual conference of the IAEA.

Amrollahi stressed that the Zionist regime has not only refused to accept Iran's proposal but also has rejected admission to the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty (NPT) [as received].

He stated that the IAEA's director general welcomed the proposal during his meeting with Amrollahi here Monday.

Blix Grants Interview

*LD2004201394 Tehran IRIB Television Third Program
Network in English 1815 GMT 20 Apr 94 (Tentative)*

["Exclusive interview" with Hans Blix, director of the International Atomic Energy Agency, by unidentified correspondent, at Teheran's Mehrabad airport on 20 April—recorded]

[Text]

Correspondent: Mr. Blix, were any major achievements accomplished during your talks with the Iranian officials?

Blix: Well, I came here to discuss first of all the arrangements of verification under a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East. And of course Iran was one of the first countries in the world to endorse this idea and I think we have created more understanding for the techniques and the system of verification that the agency offers now and the kind of enhanced verification system that would be needed under a zone. So I think we have accomplished what we hope to do, to spread better knowledge.

Correspondent: A few countries, and Israel in particular, have not yet signed the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. Does not this refusal to sign the treaty threaten the international and regional peace and stability?

Blix: Well, I think the ambition should be that all countries which do not have nuclear weapons should join a nonproliferation treaty, either the NPT or the Tlatelolco Treaty for Latin America. We have seen a great deal of progress in the past few years. Argentina and Brazil have joined, South Africa has joined the Nonproliferation Treaty, Algeria has declared that it will join.

Correspondent: And finally could you tell us about the IAEA's efforts to make a nuclear-free world, sir?

Blix: Well, it would be a little presumptuous to say that we are sort of instrumental in creating a nuclear weapon-free world, but what I can say is that I think there is reason for a great deal of optimism at the present time after the end of the Cold War. We have seen how the United States and Russia have now agreed to reduce their nuclear arsenals from some 65,000 warheads to 3,000 each. We can expect that there will be a treaty which will prohibit the production of nuclear material for weapons purposes and which very likely will lead to all the nuclear weapon states and India, Pakistan and Israel submitting all their nuclear installations to agency verification. We can expect, perhaps within one year, a complete test ban agreement so that new nuclear weapons cannot be even tested underground. So there is, and added to that then, the possibility of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East. I think that we are taking giant steps towards a world, not free from nuclear weapons, but at least much freer from it than it is now. And for a world really free of nuclear weapons I think we must also foresee a much stronger United Nations and a much stronger security organization and that will not come about in one year or perhaps even 10 years, but will take a longer time. But there is ground for a lot of optimism at the present time and of course for us in the IAEA, although we are not the negotiating parties, the verification of all these agreements will be a very important factor. And I think we have acquired a lot of experience in the many years of this and we stand ready to take on these jobs.

Correspondent: Thanks Dr. Blix for joining the IRIB English news.

Commentary Views Blix Visit

*LD2004225194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of
Iran in English 1930 GMT 20 Apr 94*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Mr. Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, is currently in Tehran on a visit for holding talks on cooperation between the agency and Iran's Atomic Energy Organization. During his visit to Tehran, Mr. Hans Blix and his team—besides inspecting Iran's nuclear facilities and holding talks with Dr. Reza Amrollahi, head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization—also met with Iran's first vice president and foreign minister.

Periodic visits of the IAEA experts to nuclear installations of its member states take place on a regular basis. For this reason the trip of Mr. Hans Blix to Tehran too has pursued the same goal. The visit of the IAEA experts to Iran is also significant because it gives an opportunity to Iran's officials to express the views and to confer on important regional and international issues related to nuclear energy. For this standpoint, during the meeting of the IAEA chief with Iran's first vice president and foreign minister, the country's views on the need for the peaceful use of nuclear energy were reiterated.

The Iranian officials, meanwhile, have not missed mentioning the point that—withstanding the false propaganda of the West, especially the United States, about Iran's nuclear program—it is the Israeli regime's indifference toward observing the principle of nuclear non-proliferation that is posing a real threat to peace and security in the Middle East. At any rate, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the peaceful use of nuclear energy—which in the modern world has various applications in the fields of medicine, industry, and research—should be recognized as a natural right of all the world countries and that nuclear technology should not be allowed to become a political tool for putting pressure against any country.

Undoubtedly the responsibility that the world bodies, especially the IAEA, have in this connection demands that the agency should deal with various countries on equal footings insofar as nuclear arms control is concerned. This is essential because only then one can speak with greater certainty about the various countries' cooperation with the IAEA programs and the positive reports of the organization experts about countries, including Iran—those having continuing cooperation with the agency—can be used in the international community in a desirable manner.

Naval Official on Strategic Weapons, New Program

*NC2004094494 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian
11 Apr 94 p 4*

[Report from the Political Desk]

[Text] The latest program of the naval forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the manufacture of submarines, docks [preceding word in English], the reconstruction of vessels, warships and weapons related to identifying units below sea level has been announced.

Speaking to our correspondent, Captain Mahmud Bidel, the head of the research unit and self-sufficiency department of the naval forces referred to the exhortations of his eminence, Imam Khomeyni (may God be pleased with him) in 1362 [year beginning 21 March 1983] on the need to attain self-sufficiency in the three branches of the armed forces and the Corps, said: According to the decree of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader and the commander in chief of the armed forces, which he issued at the end of last year, a research unit

was added to the self-sufficiency department. He added: The objectives of this measure were to strengthen the base of the country's defense. The naval forces have carried out effective work in the field of electronic warfare and have attained remarkable success.

The head of the research unit and self-sufficiency department of the naval forces continued: One of the most important tasks of this force in the aftermath of the imposed war has been to modernize the radar systems of the naval forces and to coordinate them with the latest techniques currently being used in the world.

Referring to the continued military embargo against Iran by world powers, Captain Bidel said: The necessary links have been forged with the industrial university and with the country's industry for the manufacture of the components needed for the various units of the Navy.

He said: According to my estimates, we saved 765 million rials last year on the purchase of various components for military equipment. Fortunately, now that we have forged the necessary links with the industrial university and the country's industry, there has been a 93-percent saving.

He added: Last year, the Navy succeeded in manufacturing one of the strategic weapons used in the naval fleet's aviation division. He referred to the fact that these weapons will help in strengthening the projects above sea level and in underwater defense which can assist in search, defense, and reconnaissance tactics. He said: These weapons were used in the joint Iran-Pakistan maneuvers (IR-PAK 94) and amazed the Pakistani naval officials and the international observers.

Elaborating on the fact that an underwater reconnaissance unit of Iran would be ready by the end of this year, Captain Bidel said: Armaments related to the identification of underwater units and fleet helicopters will be ready by the end of this year. Regarding the Hamzeh warship (formerly known as the Shahsavari) which had been completed in Azar [22 November-21 December] last year, he said: Preliminaries for the manufacture of submarines that can be used for deep sea diving fitted with heavy-duty equipment have been initiated.

He added: The renovation of one hovercraft [preceding word in English] will be completed by the end of this year and it will become operational. Captain Bidel said that an astronomical system had been developed by the marine sciences academy in Nowshahr in collaboration with the research unit and self-sufficiency department of the naval forces and has been put into use. He stated that the preliminaries for the utilization of this system at the marine sciences academy in Sistan va Baluchestan have been completed.

He stressed: With the help of this system we can identify celestial bodies from inside the submarine. He added that the naval forces have attained great success in manufacturing underwater communications and said: The research unit and self-sufficiency department has set

up an inverse engineering section, in collaboration with the Sharif industrial university and has implemented four projects, including duplication of the computers currently being used worldwide.

In conclusion, the head of the research unit and the self-sufficiency department of the naval forces said that the work for the construction of a 150-ton dock has been initiated in Bushehr and will become operational on 22 Bahman [11 February] this [Iranian] year. He said that this dock would be able to accommodate small and large vessels for repairs.

Zarif Calls for Nuclear-Weapon-Free Middle East
*LD2004091294 Tehran IRNA in English 0821 GMT
20 Apr 94*

[Text] United Nations, New York, April 20, IRNA—Iran's deputy foreign minister for international affairs, Mohammad Javad Zarif here today called for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, formation of security and cooperation arrangements in the Persian Gulf area, and reduction of military expenditures including agreement on a ceiling for international arms purchase and transfer to each country in the area.

Addressing the United Nations Disarmament Commission, he also called for the establishment of a forum in which concerns and suggestions of Persian Gulf states in the area of security and armaments could be aired and debated.

He also called for the inclusion of new items on illicit arms trade on the agenda of the commission.

He added, "This issue, which has very direct and close links to international drug trafficking as well as terrorism, has had serious consequences for the security of a number of states across the globe. Like terrorism and drug menace, illicit arms trade is an international problem, requiring international cooperation, and a common approach. The commission can thus play a very constructive role by establishing guidelines and pointing areas of mutual effort and cooperation."

Stressing nuclear disarmament and destruction of existing nuclear weapons, he said, "It is also self evident that the most effective guarantee against the use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament, including destruction of all existing nuclear arsenals. Furthermore, the obvious fact that no nonproliferation scheme will succeed so long as nuclear disarmament is not clearly in perspective should not be overlooked."

Referring to the collapse of the bipolar world order, he said, "States that hold massive stockpiles of nuclear weapons have, at least, a moral obligation to explain to the international community as to what remains as the logic behind maintaining nuclear weapons. The world has the right to know who these weapons are intended for and who they are to deter any more."

"It is quite shocking that no major country possessing nuclear weapons really came forward in this regard. At the same time, they seek unlimited extension of the Nonproliferation Treaty, making it absolutely clear that even the ultimate goal remains nonproliferation rather than eradication of nuclear weapons which is indeed the stated objective of the treaty," Zarif said.

Referring to the discriminations inherent in the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), he said, "Probably the most important and fundamental flaw in the international nonproliferation regime is the application of double standards which has led to selective proliferation of nuclear weapons."

This has not only gravely undermined the authority and relevance of the NPT, but also had serious ramifications for international and regional peace and security, and retarded regional initiatives, he added.

On Israel's negative role in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, Zarif said, "In our region, the acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel has foiled all efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, despite the General Assembly's unanimous and continuous endorsement for the past two decades of the idea put forward originally by Iran in 1974."

Elsewhere on the NPT Zarif said, "The states which are renouncing the nuclear option through the NPT must be granted full access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes."

On the chemical weapons, Zarif said that the arbitrary limitations on transfer of material and technology has already had its negative effects on discussions to formulate verification mechanisms related to the convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their destruction.

The enthusiasm of many countries to sign the convention will give way to reluctance and indifference when the time for ratification and implementation arrives, he said.

An intrusive verification system may hamper development in the field of peaceful use in another very significant area, he said, adding that real guarantees and commitments for removal of all restrictions as well as transfer of material and related technology by the producing countries before considering new verification system is necessary.

INDIA

Article Views U.S. Interests in Region, Nuclear Issue

*BK1104062894 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
4 Apr 94 p 8*

[Article by Kuldip Nayar: "Deadly embrace"]

[Text] Washington does not come to the point straightaway. It goes over a process to evolve. Camp David

confabulations spanned the distance between Cairo and Tel Aviv. More recently, the lawns of the White House witnessed the handshake between the Israeli Prime Minister and the PLO chief.

The visit of Robin Raphel, head of State Department's South Asia Bureau, to the subcontinent is the beginning of another exercise. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott comes to promote it. Finally, if all goes well, there may be a meeting between Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on the lawns of the White House in the presence of beaming and clapping President Clinton to parade 'the results'.

It is not that America is fumbling for what it is seeking; it is only that it wants to show that 'the results' came forth gradually into being. Process is the key word, not pressure or prize, although the United States makes a liberal use of it.

For reasons it does not hide, the Clinton administration has decided to cap nuclear programmes both in India and Pakistan. The visit by Raphel and Talbott are part of an exercise to bring it about. The assumption is that both New Delhi and Islamabad will give in to Washington's thinking.

Starting with Islamabad, America has offered the bait of 38 F-16s, which Pakistan is keen to acquire. (It made the payment of \$680 million nearly two years ago). The Clinton administration has said that it will make one-time exception to the Pressler amendment which forbids any military assistance or the sale of weapons to a country which possesses the nuclear device. The price demanded is the capping of nuclear programme by Pakistan.

Benazir realises that it cannot sell the proposition to a nation which has been told and retold that it is better to eat grass than to skimp on manufacturing the bomb. On the other hand, Benazir very much wants the F-16s. She has reportedly conveyed to Washington that she may be able to persuade her people to accept the proposition if India too caps its nuclear programme.

What leverage does Washington have with New Delhi to effect it? And why should Rao put his head on the block? America is getting together a package containing "incentives" which Talbott will spell out during his visit to India. Rao has also been invited to Washington from 6 May to meet Clinton and Congressmen. To ensure that Rao does not reject outright the invitation, the Hinduja's in London have been brought into the picture.

Anticipating India's demand that China, should also cap its nuclear programme America proposes convening a larger meeting, including Russia and China, for arriving at some consensus. Both India and Pakistan will be invited. It is difficult to imagine China agreeing to any curb when it has not accepted even a moratorium on nuclear tests.

But the Clinton administration's eyes are set on India and Pakistan, not China. It expects that the meetings in

Washington, preceded by the process which Raphel and Talbott have set into motion, will yield some 'results'. If, despite Raphel's offensive observations, Rao could order red carpet treatment for her in the face of foreign office's opposition and even ask the Home Minister, S. B. Chavan, to meet her, the Prime Minister can be probably propitiated by the fuss America intends making during his visit.

All this is understandable from Washington's point of view. But the interests of New Delhi are not served by America's moves. Whatever agreement or concession in the nuclear field is envisaged, it should be offered directly to Islamabad. The principle of bilateralism, which has been established through the Simla Agreement to settle mutual differences between India and Pakistan, should not be diluted. By giving any function to a third party, particularly America, New Delhi may set a precedent which may one day be used in respect of Kashmir.

Why America has been singled out is because it is clearer than before that Washington wants to have a role in the region. Maybe, it is anticipating China's disintegration after Deng Xiaoping's death. Maybe, it is opposed to India emerging as a regional power. Maybe, it has developed a vested interest in Kashmir. Unlike the Bush administration, the Clinton administration has different strategical considerations.

Because of these considerations, Washington's tilt towards Islamabad is visible. For it, Pakistan is a dependable country where the army's hold makes things far easier than those in democratic, uncertain India. Raphel has given a peep into one aspect of America's policies by hinting at an independent status for the state of Jammu and Kashmir. However, America's UN representative in 1949, Henry Austin, during the discussion on Kashmir at the UN, said that the state's "sovereignty" had passed on to India.

Washington has come a long way since. Raphel is only annoyingly enthusiastic about-putting things across. But before she made them public she tested them at the Carnegie Institute on a group of American scholars working on the subcontinent. She said that America would treat India and Pakistan at par. When a lady scholar said that the policy reminded her of the days of Dulles, Raphel did not contradict her.

If Rao still wants to go to America, he is at liberty to do so. But please save us the humbug that the visit is meant to further consolidate the relationship between India and the United States.

Paper Unimpressed by U.S. Moves on Nuclear Issue

*BK1604131294 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
7 Apr 94 p 8*

[Editorial: "Diplomatic Bankruptcy"]

[Text] President Clinton, it would seem, is desperate for a major foreign policy triumph. Nuclear nonproliferation

and human rights have been at the top of his agenda. There has been no headway in promoting either. While Warren Christopher met his Waterloo in Beijing as far as human rights are concerned, his chief found North Korea a tough customer on nonproliferation. From the U.S. point of view, therefore, the need to embark on a bout of aggressive diplomacy in South Asia is all the greater. This is the backdrop of the visit of Strobe Talbott to New Delhi as Clinton's troubleshooter. If at least there was even a hint of progress in the many rounds of Indo-U.S. talks that have already taken place in recent months, Talbott could be expected to try and improve matters with significant overtures. But that is assuredly not the case, with Robin Raphel's endeavours having yielded invisible results. Talbott, in other words, is faced with the onerous task of convincing New Delhi of the inherent virtues of the Clinton administration's approach to the Indo-Pakistani conflict. But the worst way of making any headway is to offer saccharin-coated lollipops to India.

Strobe Talbott, apart from being a high-ranking State Department official, is also a scholar and a former journalist. He should know better than career diplomats that devising formulae that may look attractive on paper will make no dent whatsoever in India's security concerns. These concerns have been influenced as much by India's history and geography as by the bitter experience of having to deal with a neighbour which has waged three wars to annex Kashmir, and which it could do entirely because of its colossal military arsenal supplied by successive regimes in Washington. Total American unconcern for New Delhi's apprehensions born, first, of the circumstances of Pakistan's birth and, later, of U.S. help in nurturing a virtual counterweight to India, persist. Otherwise, it is hard to see how the policy-makers in Washington could even imagine that India would have evinced the slightest interest in the package that has been purposefully leaked to THE WASHINGTON POST.

According to the paper, the package provides for verified Pakistani capping of its production of weapons-grade nuclear material, U.S. lifting of the Pressler Amendment to clear the sale of F-16s to Pakistan, and an Indian agreement to give up its Prithvi and Agni missiles in response to Islamabad's restraint on nukes. To ask India to accept this package is to ask it to sign its own death warrant. If, indeed, Talbott plans to present this package to South Block, it only means that even a man of his experience and knowledge is, in effect, a stranger to this country. He is being wilfully naive in believing that Benazir Bhutto's support for the package qualifies it automatically for Indian endorsement. All together, it seems a clear case of diplomatic bankruptcy.

Commentary Questions U.S. Policy Objectives

BK0704140394 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 7 Apr 94

[Commentary by Subhash Kirpekar of the TIMES OF INDIA]

[Text] The relations between India and Pakistan have been deteriorating. The unfortunate part is that they are

not showing any signs of improving mainly because Pakistan wants to internationalize the Kashmir issue which is essentially a bilateral matter. The proposed sale of 38 F-16 aircraft by the United States to Pakistan can by no stretch of imagination be seen as a measure to improve the ground situation and prepare for peace in the region. Proliferation cannot be prevented by delivery system for nuclear bombs. This will only trigger an arms race and divert funds from poverty removal and development programs so necessary for the malnourished and deprived population in both India and Pakistan.

The Indian position has intrinsic merits and cannot be wished away or brushed off by Washington if it genuinely wants South Asia as a zone of peace. In the event of the sale of F-16's by waiving the Pressler Amendment coming through, the Indian reply could well be to have as many Agni [long-range surface-to-surface] missiles. Interestingly, Washington wants New Delhi to stop the deployment of Agni missile. Washington has to decide then whether it should show genuine concern for peace in this region or superimpose this with its concern for the prosperity of the domestic arms lobby which stands to rack in \$800 million by selling the F-16's.

If the United States is to be credible then its actions will have to match its words. At the moment, they do not appear to synchronize. And what is this capping of nuclear weapons capability by Islamabad that Washington is talking of? If media reports on Pakistan are to be believed, then the statement by General Beg at a recent seminar in Karachi is an eye-opener. He said that Pakistan has done the capping five years ago and that, too, without verification of nuclear installations by Washington. What is implied is that America should not go in for any verification now. Also if the capping has already been done by Pakistan, then the question that arises is why should the United States treat capping as a new concession and reward Pakistan with F-16's. Is this some kind of massive hoax?

In the circumstances, what Mr. Strobe Talbott, U.S. deputy secretary of state in the Clinton administration, could try to do during his current visit to India is try to work for a verification package with India applying international inspection to check out if the use of fissile materials is really for peaceful purposes. Since Mr. Talbott's next halt after New Delhi is at Islamabad, he could repeat the same offer there also.

Washington's contradictions are quizzing. It talks of human rights [word indistinct] of those very countries which are the worst perpetrators of human rights violations. It talks of democracy and then assists undemocratic regimes. It talks of peace and prepares a conflict situation. It knows that Pakistan is sponsoring terrorism in Kashmir through armed secessionist groups. It knows Pakistan wants to grab Kashmir by force, something India will never permit. It knows that Pakistan disagrees with agreements signed by it like the Simla agreement.

Since what was signed by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, one would have thought that his daughter Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto would have thought seriously of implementing it, but America does little to persuade Pakistan to shed its belligerence and obstinacy. The observation that Pakistan was born in sin [as heard] and lives on hatred of India is not off the mark. Successive regimes in Pakistan have thrived on India-baiting and bashing. At various international forums, including the Human Rights Commission in Geneva where Pakistan suffered a major diplomatic fiasco recently, it has sought to target India and hide its own gross violations of human rights, deny the fundamental rights to the people of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and northern territories of Hunza, Gilgit, and Baltistan and the violent suppression of minorities like the Christians, Hindus, and the Ahmediyas.

U.S. Attempt To Link F-16's, NPT Unacceptable

*BK0804110294 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 2 Apr 94 p 12*

[By M.K. Dhar]

[Text] New Delhi, 1 April—U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, who is arriving here on 6 April, will be clearly told that even though India is interested in knowing the Clinton administration's views on resolving Indo-Pak differences, linking of F-16 supply to Pakistan with a grand design of nonproliferation in South Asia is unacceptable to it.

India feels that the issue of Pakistan's nuclear capability and its capping is a bilateral matter between Islamabad and Washington. It cannot be expected to make a matching commitment to a proposition which strikes at the root of nonproliferation and legitimises Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons programme.

Mr. Talbott, who is expected to meet Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and other Union Ministers and have discussions with Foreign Secretary K. Srinivasan and External Affairs Ministry officials, is likely to unfold his package to establish a verifiable, comprehensive nonproliferation regime in the subcontinent by capping nuclear capabilities of both India and Pakistan and also suggesting a multilateral dialogue on arms control.

The incentives he has to offer to India to comply with the Clinton administration's requirements are not known, but what is talked about privately refers to raising the threshold on technologies that have so far been denied to it. The suggestion for a U.S.-sponsored West Asia Type Indo-Pak dialogue on Kashmir and other issues has been informally mooted but the Indian reaction will be known only when Mr. Talbott spells out his proposals in detail.

At present, India is unwilling to commit itself to any such negotiations without knowing their scope and usefulness. It will not accept anything which amounts to compromising its principles because on issues, such as, nonproliferation and Kashmir it is not easy to reconcile

the views held by India and Pakistan, which has found a supporter in the Clinton administration for its nuclear adventurist role in South Asia.

The Assistant Secretary of State Ms. Robin Raphel, who spent five days here, has already tested the temperature and seen the disposition of New Delhi, will brief Mr. Talbott on her discussions with the Indian leaders and also accompany him on his tour of India and Pakistan. Though Ms. Raphel kept a low profile during her discussions in New Delhi and avoided raking up fresh controversies, she did not yield ground on any aspect of the policies that have been laid down for the Clinton administration in relation to India and Pakistan. It is, therefore, unlikely that any further pressures from the U.S. over the nonproliferation issue will work so long as India's legitimate security requirements are not met and its concept of complete and universal disarmament is not accepted.

The Indian Government believe that the Clinton administration has already taken the decision to supply 36 F-16 aircraft and an unspecified number of P-3 Orion antisubmarine warfare planes through one-time exception of the Pressler Amendment which currently bars U.S. military aid to Pakistan. In order to get the support of the Congress to the move, the administration is linking it with a broader South Asia initiative on nonproliferation including capping of the nuclear capabilities of both India and Pakistan.

But, in effect, Washington is back-sliding on its accepted policy of nonproliferation in South Asia. It is preempting the whole purpose of the bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan by proposing a barter. F-16s, as India has pointed out, can be easily modified to deliver nuclear weapons as Pakistan had done in the case of the aircraft it received prior to the Pressler ban.

Mr. Talbott will surely be told that India is the biggest victim of proliferation in the region and the U.S. has condoned acquisition of nuclear capability by Pakistan and is trying to formalise it so that Islamabad can indulge in the game of adventurism and blackmail. Therefore, the concept of forcing India and Pakistan to comply with U.S. nonproliferation goals while adding to Islamabad's offensive capability through the supply of F-16 and other aircraft, is totally unacceptable to India. The supply of F-16s will decisively shift the military balance in the region in Pakistan's favour, India does not accept the argument that because of its superior ground forces it is not facing a real threat from Pakistan as there are limitations to deploying forces on a single front. While Pakistan will have, in addition to the F16s, M-11 and other missiles supplied to it by China deployed against India, New Delhi is being strongly advised against deploying the Prithvi missiles along its borders.

Though Pakistan is theoretically under sanctions over the issue of missile supplies from China, it is widely known that Beijing has maintained supplies of components of M-11 missiles with a range of more than 300

km. Therefore, there are no takers for the argument that resumption of American arms supply to Pakistan will not change the strategic balance in the subcontinent.

Experts Question U.S. Claims on F-16's for Pakistan

BK0904141594 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 3 Apr 94 p 12

[By Diplomatic Editor]

[Text] New Delhi, April 2—Indian defence planners have questioned the Clinton Administration's claim that the 36 F-16 multirole combat aircraft proposed to be transferred to Pakistan under a one-time Pressler waiver are not capable of carrying nuclear weapons.

An assertion to this effect by the Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week was challenged by one of the members who pointed out that "even a garage mechanic" could refit the F-16 to carry nuclear weapons.

The U.S. intelligence agencies, as also disarmament experts, have confirmed that the F-16s supplied previously to Pakistan have been refitted to carry nuclear bombs. Former CIA Director Robert Gates had in a Senate testimony in 1992 acknowledged that Pakistan had equipped its F-16s to deliver nuclear weapons. The renowned disarmament expert Mitchell Reiss, consultant at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre too has asserted that the uranium-based Pakistani bomb could be delivered by any of the advanced fighter jets in Islamabad's inventory including the F-16.

India's opposition to the sale of F-16s is based not only on the consideration that Pakistan's offensive capability will increase to the extent of upsetting the balance of power, but also that it will boost its capacity for nuclear adventurism. It has also been revealed that despite the ban on military sales to Pakistan under the Pressler Law, the U.S. Administration has quietly permitted the Pakistani Armed Forces to buy American made arms from commercial firms. Among the items sold are spares for F-16s, which form the nucleus of Pakistan's Air Force.

It is argued that the spares were intended to help Pakistan to maintain its current arsenal. Although for years Pakistan was engaged in a massive, covert effort to build atomic weapons, U.S. governments were reluctant to take strict measures against it because of its assistance to Washington's efforts to arm the Afghan rebels who were fighting Soviet troops. Thus, Islamabad was rewarded for building nuclear weapons and given favoured treatment.

Official sources said here that it was too simplistic a proposition that Pakistan will cap its weapon-oriented nuclear programme for anyone to take seriously. If past performance is any guide no reliance can be put on Pakistan's word. Therefore, India cannot be expected to

accept a corresponding obligation of capping its capability and throwing its facilities open to international inspection in the face of Pakistan's record.

There is talk of offering "incentives" if India agrees to verifiably cap its nuclear fissile material production. It is pointed out that due to the sanctions imposed on the Indian Space Research Organisation, India is forced to develop indigenous capabilities for manufacturing Cryogenic engines. It has also built parallel computers capable of performing the functions of super computers. There is now talk of U.S. allowing exports of computers with the capability of 500 MTOPS to 1000 MTOPS, to provide India access to high resolution satellite pictures and even to supply commercial nuclear reactors subject to international safeguards. These carrots will not tempt India which feels its security threatened.

However, there are no differences between India and the U.S. over a universal test ban and capping production of fissile materials for weapon purposes provided it is globally applicable. In fact, New Delhi co-sponsored with Washington a UN resolution proposing an international convention for fissile material cut-off.

India believes that it will commit itself to cut-off when all countries including the five declared nuclear powers, accept it. The U.S. Administration proposal is however, seen to be discriminatory as it will create two categories of nations, one that will be allowed to retain their huge stockpiles of fissile materials, and other who will have to cap, roll-back and ultimately eliminate their production.

During her recent New Delhi visit Assistant Secretary Ms Robin Raphel sought to convey the impression that the U.S. was interested in a comprehensive dialogue with India without which its South Asian policy would not carry much weight. She refrained from unfolding new policies to get the Indian reaction.

Minister Says Government Not To Slow Down Missile Program

BK0904085294 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0830 GMT 9 Apr 94

[Text] The minister of state for defense, Mr. Mallikarjun, has asserted that India will not succumb to pressure from any country to slow down its missile development program. Talking to newsmen in Madras today, he said that Prithvi [surface-to-surface missile] has been successfully tested and it is for the technical experts to decide about its induction into the armed forces.

Mr. Mallikarjun also expressed concern over the possibility of a military imbalance in the region if Washington supplies F-16 jets to Pakistan.

Agni Test-Fired, Significance Viewed**Details of Firing**

94WP0075A Hyderabad DECCAN CHRONICLE
in English 20 Feb 94 p 1

[Text] Chandipur-on-sea, Feb. 19 (UNI)—India's intermediate range ballistic missile Agni was successfully test-fired from the Interim Test Range (ITR) here on Saturday evening.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sources said unlike on 7 January, when it had to be postponed owing to a snag in the on-board computer system, Saturday's blast-off was flawless.

However, while the tentative schedule for the blast-off was fixed between 7 and 5 p.m., it actually took off at 5.45 p.m.

Agni, which has a range of 2,500 km, is one of the five missiles developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme. The others being Prithvi, Akash, Trishul and Nag.

A network of telemetry and tracking stations at the ITR, the Sriharikota High Altitude Range (SHAR), Car Nicobar and naval ships followed the flight sequence throughout till the payload impacted at the designated target. The white hot object was tracked by the naval ships confirming the success of the mission.

The third launch of the test-vehicle was aimed at achieving longer range and advanced manoeuvrability during the re-entry phase of the flight for greater accuracy in guiding the payload to a designated target at long range.

The missile used a solid propellant in the first stage and a liquid propellant in the second stage and was fully indigenous. It is 21 metres in length with a take off weight of 19 tonnes and a payload capacity of one tonne.

There were no problems with the direction (azimuth) of the missile. Also the missile firing was stable and could do the critical pitch over manoeuvre—when the missile is fired in a vertical position and at a certain height it is deflected about 20-25 degrees during the first stage to put the missile into its designated flight path.

Development Reviewed

94WP0075B Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA
in English 22 Feb 94 p 8

[Article by Manoj Joshi: "Agni's Launch Raises Questions"]

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 21—The successful launch of the Agni-III technology demonstrator on Saturday begs more questions than it answers. The Agni-III, 21 metres in length, with a take-off weight of 19 tonnes, is a substantially modified version of Agni-I, featuring a new

stage separation system as well as an advanced design manoeuvring-type warhead.

The Agni project was sanctioned in July 1983 at a cost of Rs 35 crores for testing three launch vehicles. Now that the series has ended, the government must decide what to do. Does it accept the Western diktat and abandon efforts to deploy long-range missiles? Or does it continue "testing" and "technology demonstration" of some more different kinds of missiles ad infinitum?

The other logical option is to instruct the DRDO and sanction funds to fabricate prototypes of missiles that will be deployed in a specific time frame. Given the existing deployments in China, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Iran, India will not be pre-empting anyone, only reacting, somewhat belatedly, to existing capabilities in our region.

The first of the Agni series were launched after six years of efforts by 5,000 engineers and staff. The 600 sec. duration of the flight tested a re-entry vehicle structure as well as a control and guidance package. In addition a multi-node, automatic checkout system was also proved. The test was successful in fulfilling the requirements in all the parameters.

The second test took place on 29 May 1992, but proved to be a failure when two seconds after launch Agni-II began to veer off-course and came apart, plunging into the sea hundreds of miles away from the planned point of descent near the Car Nicobar islands.

The reason for the failure was beguilingly simple. Agni-II was modified by extending its length to 21m from the 19m. length of Agni-I. Its weight was increased from 14 to 16 tonnes. This change altered the vehicle's vibration characteristics which are measured by sensors and which report to an on-board computer which orders the various instruments to correct the trajectory.

Amazingly the scientists failed to adjust the sensors following the modification of the weight and length of the vehicle. Last year, upon a Russian consultant's advice the problem was resolved in one day.

The first attempt to launch Agni-III was made earlier this year and it failed when the launch had to be aborted seconds before ignition. Agni-III, which looks like Agni-II, has been sent up to test a new re-entry vehicle (warhead container). This RV has fins which allow it to manoeuvre and hence attain greater accuracy.

Another aspect that the test is designed to prove a more advanced stage separation process. Agni-I used ullage motors which powered the vehicle for the fraction of a second when stage one burnt out and stage two ignited. In the case of Agni-III, there is a split-second period in which stage two ignites even before stage one has burnt out. This is a complex business but it must be mastered to make any modern missile.

What happens now? The record of tests is not a happy one. Technically four tests have taken place (including

the aborted one earlier in the year) in a span of five years of which two have been failures.

Notwithstanding the current success, Agni is a technology test-bed too fragile and complex for becoming a rugged transportable weapons system.

The question that comes to mind is: Has the DRDO been too ambitious with the Agni project? The level of innovation between Agni-I and Agni-II was quite substantial. But there is the basic question of the vehicle itself which has an SLV-3 first stage and a modified Prithvi as the second.

This is all right as a test-bed but with two different propellents it would be too cumbersome a missile. The DRDO could have gone for a single-stage liquid propelled missile, something not very modern and fashionable, but useful with its existing technology.

Building a solid-propelled multi-stage missile means going to the ISRO for technology and that is not the easiest of processes given the jealousy with which that organisation guards its technology.

These and other issues need to be looked at in the coming months. A programme which has been delayed some four years already requires urgent attention now.

Paper Reports Temporary Halt to Agni Missile Program

BK2004045894 Hong Kong AFP in English 0432 GMT
20 Apr 94

[Text] New Delhi, April 20 (AFP)—India has temporarily capped its ambitious Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) programme, apparently because of a fiscal crunch, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The government has indefinitely postponed further trials of the "Agni" (Fire) missile, which has a range of 2,500 kilometers (1,560 miles), THE HINDUSTAN TIMES said.

The temporary capping "is being attributed to a financial crunch," it said, but added that the postponement was seen as a concession to American concerns about India's missile programme.

Indian officials were not available to comment on the TIMES report.

The United States has been pressing India to stop development of the missile which can carry a nuclear or conventional warhead or put a payload weighing one tonne in orbit.

Washington says Agni, which forms part of India's Integrated Missile Development Programme launched [words indistinct] could lead to missile proliferation in the region.

India, which in 1974 carried out a nuclear test but claimed its nuclear programme was entirely peaceful, has described its missile programme as a "nonnuclear deterrent."

The newspaper said the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) had sought some 17 million dollars to conduct three more Agni test launches but the government had not responded, citing a shortage of funds.

"Defence sources claimed that India was not going to abandon its strategic missile programme under American pressure, but admitted that some delays would now be inevitable," it said.

India's missile programme also envisages the development of an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile with double the range of Agni. It has also developed an array of weapons systems including surface-to-air, surface-to-surface, anti-ship and anti-tank rockets.

The TIMES added that India had meanwhile finalised a deal to buy 30 fourth generation MiG-29M fighter aircraft from Russia, apparently in response to a U.S. proposal to sell 38 F-16 jets to Pakistan.

"There is every possibility that India may start getting the MiG-29M even before the US Senate gives the nod for the supply of F-16s to Pakistan," it said.

The White House has asked the U.S. Congress for a one-time waiver of an amendment barring military sales to Pakistan because of its nuclear weapons programme to allow it deliver the F-16s.

The TIMES described the MiG-29Ms as "highly sophisticated," with all-weather radar system. They are "rated better than the F-16s in most respects, except for their armament load capacity," it added.

India has fought three wars with Pakistan and one with China.

Official Discusses Nuclear Energy Use

BK0804103194 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 2 Apr 94 p 12

[Text] New Delhi, 1 April. India is far ahead of China and Pakistan in making use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and emerging as an advanced country in this field, Dr. R. Chidambaram, Chairman, Department of Atomic Energy said here today.

While China has (?two) operational nuclear power plants and Pakistan only one, India has nine operational nuclear power plants and generates about 1,720 MW of power which is approximately three per cent of the total power generation of the country, Dr. Chidambaram said in an exclusive interview.

He said that the country had developed expertise in all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle and had created indigenous capabilities in designing construction and operation of nuclear power plants, reprocessing of spent fuel, and manufacture of the necessary sophisticated equipment.

Capabilities had been created right from exploration and mining atomic minerals; preparation of high purity nuclear materials, such as uranium, thorium, zirconium etc.; production of fuel elements for reactors; production of heavy water and health and safety instrumentation of nuclear waste management, he said.

Dr. Chidambaram said that the prime objective of the atomic energy programme was development, control and use of atomic energy solely for peaceful purposes. These included generation of electricity and development of nuclear applications in research, agriculture, industry, medicine and other areas.

To achieve this objective, efforts were initiated to build a versatile infrastructure for research facilities, trained scientific and technical manpower, raw material processing centres and the know-how and capability to manufacture nuclear components and electronic equipment to support the atomic energy programme with a view to making India truly self-reliant, he said.

As a result of these efforts, Dr. Chidambaram observed that India had broken the super power monopoly in this field and the country was today in a position to export research reactors and heavy water, subject to international safeguards.

"Today, nine units of nuclear power plants are in operation in the country with a total capacity of 1,720 MW. The work in respect of Rajasthan Atomic Power Projects III and IV, and a unit of Kaiga Atomic Power Project in Karnataka, each unit of 220 MW, would be commissioned soon," Dr. Chidambaram informed.

He said that the Tarapur Atomic Power Station, Rajasthan Atomic Power Station, Madras Atomic Power Station, Narora Atomic Power Station and Unit I of Kakrapar Atomic Power Project were presently operational. The second 220 MW unit of Kakrapar Atomic Power Project is expected to achieve criticality shortly, he added.

Dr. Chidambaram admitted that India's nuclear programme target of generating 10,000 MW of power by the end of this century had been slowed down due to a financial crunch. However, he said that such a crisis was being faced by all public sector units and the country's nuclear programme was no exception.

The Nuclear Power Corporation was striving to increase its internal resource generation. Today our nuclear power stations could generate an internal surplus of about Rs. [rupees] 100 crore, but with the addition of

Rajasthan and Karnataka units our internal resource generation would touch almost Rs. 400 crore by 1997-98, he said.

Dr. Chidambaram was of the view that at some stage going public would be necessary, and that there was tremendous scope for joint ventures in this field. Referring to low operating performance of nuclear power plants, which is lower than international standards, Dr. Chidambaram said that difficulties were being faced in integrating the nuclear power stations with the grid resulting in low operating performance. These problems were, however, being sorted out.

Referring to the safety aspect of nuclear power plants, Dr. Chidambaram said that the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, an independent body, oversaw and regulated all activities to enforce safety-related aspects of atomic power plants. "The guidelines followed are in conformity with international standards, such as those prescribed by the International Commission on Radiological Protection," he asserted.

Dr. Chidambaram said that safety was incorporated in all phases of a nuclear power project or activities starting right from the selection of site. Safety, well engineered into the system as per current international standards, was pursued in fabrication of equipment, construction phases and maintained during operation phase, with review by multi-tier committees at different levels. Plans for emergency preparedness had also been implemented, he said.

Recently, the standing committee on energy of the Lok Sabha in its fourth report on "Nuclear Plan Safety and Spent Fuel Management" which was placed in Parliament last month, has held that the commitment of the Department of Atomic Energy to safety was total. The committee found that care for protection of environment was imbibed in the form of regular procedures for site design and operations of all plants. It observed that the Department of Atomic Energy adhered to site safety features, including protection against earth quakes and associated phenomena, extreme meteorological phenomena such as cyclones, floods etc. and man-induced events such as aircraft crash, fire, explosions, and toxic chemical handling.

The committee findings revealed that nuclear industry in the country had established a satisfactory safety record. There have been no fatalities caused by radiation, nor any significant occupational radiation injuries of any kind detrimental to the public or the environment, at any of the Indian nuclear facilities.

The committee noted that India accorded top priority to management of radioactive wastes right from the beginning of the Indian nuclear programme.

PAKISTAN

Editorial Expresses Satisfaction Over Talbott Talks

BK1104133694 Rawalpindi JANG in Urdu 11 Apr 94
p 3

[Editorial: "Pakistan-U.S. Talks—Hope for Positive Progress"]

[Text] Strobe Talbott, the U.S. deputy secretary of state, has concluded his talks with Pakistani authorities in Islamabad. It was generally felt that the entire attention at the talks would be directed to the nuclear problem in the subcontinent and the supply of F-16 planes to Pakistan. However, as Talbott himself said, the talks were wide-ranging and encompassed not only specific South Asian issues but other global and regional issues of interest to Pakistan and the United States, too. Although these talks, as the press reports indicate, have not been conclusive and will be continued, but a big benefit obtained from them is that they enabled Pakistan and the United States to understand each other's viewpoints.

Pakistan repeated its proclaimed stand that it staunchly supports nuclear nonproliferation. However, the objective can be achieved only when the two major countries of South Asia both agree to accept identical restrictions and no country is given any discriminatory or preferential treatment. At his news conference, Talbott clarified that the United States would like to accomplish the objective of ending the weapons of mass destruction by pursuing fair means, and there is no question of any attempt to push Pakistan to the corner and to put any pressure on it unilaterally. He also held extensive talks on the supply of F-16 planes to Pakistan and said that the supply of planes is part of the proposals presented to Pakistan as a package.

The United States also made a proposal to Pakistan for convening a multinational conference to discuss the nuclear nonproliferation issue, which would include nine countries. Pakistan has agreed to the proposal. Talbott repeated the demand for an inspection of Pakistan's nuclear installations. Pakistan responded with alternative proposals that were not disclosed. The two sides have agreed that future talks will be held quietly without much publicity so they can deliberate on concrete proposals while keeping them free from political pressures.

It is satisfying to note that the government of Pakistan expressed its resolve to adhere to its stand on basic issues and refused to compromise on them. The overall attitude of the U.S. mission was also satisfying, and it did not demand that Pakistan abandon its nuclear program right away. It is only after three years that Pakistan and the United States have held such high-level extensive talks that have helped the two sides understand each other's viewpoint better. Now that it has been decided to adopt the path of quiet diplomacy, it is appropriate to hope that it will yield results and that the United States,

keeping with its claim, will be able to adopt an equitable strategy toward the countries of South Asia.

Pakistan is ready to accept any reasonable proposal on nuclear nonproliferation. The U.S. authorities might have realized this fact very well during their recent talks. We hope that the Clinton administration will have a greater realistic approach to all issues after it receives the report on Talbott's mission and will make a decision to supply F-16 planes to Pakistan without making any unacceptable demand. It will not be incongruous to hope that the Islamabad talks will result in the revival of better and effective relations between Pakistan and the United States. Talbott's remarks that the United States still attaches the same importance to Pakistan as it did before the end of the Cold War is encouraging. If this claim is correct, then there is no justification for suspending the military assistance to Pakistan.

Pakistan's stand on the nuclear issue is very rational and legitimate. In no case can it be used as a plea for suspending military assistance to Pakistan. Similarly, the refusal to supply the F-16 planes is a totally unjustifiable action, because under a business deal Pakistan has paid for them and the U.S. Government is obligated to supply the planes. Talbott announced that no extraordinary importance would be given to India among the countries of South Asia. We hope the U.S. Government posture will fully conform to this claim.

Editorial Views Regional, U.S. Stances on NPT Treaty

BK1104103894 Islamabad THE NATION in English
11 Apr 94 p 6

[Editorial: "Quiet Diplomacy"]

[Text] Mr. Strobe Talbott, after his meetings with the Prime Minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto and the Foreign Minister, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, does not seem to have closed the door on further talks with Pakistan. Pakistan's position is that it would relent on the NPT only if India does and the Indian position is that it would relent only if the nuclear powers of the world, including China, do. Of the two, Pakistan's position would seem to be more amenable to a solution than India's but it is harder of the two in the sense that it being absolutely the basic minimum, leaves no room for any concession. Any government giving so much as even a hint of freezing the nuclear programme unilaterally, leaving the Indians free to carry on theirs, would immediately fall. The Indian position, on the surface, is far less amenable to any solution, because it seeks to impose the NPT not on one country but on all the major powers of the world, but is actually softer because its nonacceptance does not really hurt India's vital security interests. In that sense it is rather a phoney condition put up as a ploy to extract a quid pro quo or blackmail the U.S. In the case of Pakistan the quid pro quo is of F-16s. Pakistan having rejected that, has now its back against the wall. It can

retreat no further. That is where the hardness of Pakistan's stance comes in. India is angling for more and more from the U.S. before it allows itself to capitulate on the NPT. It has already won from the U.S. the promise of nonintervention in Kashmir. Mr. Talbott's reference to the Simla Agreement and his silence on Indian atrocities in Kashmir, seems to be part of that India's other goal is to deprive Pakistan of conventional weapons. Hence its insistence on blocking the delivery of F-16s to Pakistan. The United States, on its part, has used the bait of sponsorship of India for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council, in return for a deal on NPT. So India has kept to itself a number of options to play around.

In this game of quiet diplomacy likely to be played in the days to come, Pakistan it seems would hardly hold any cards in its hand. A time may come when it may have to choose between its traditional friendship with the United States and its vital security concerns. In contrast, the pressure on India is minimal. India does not have to depend on the U.S. for anything, including friendship. It already has a traditional friend—Russia—in the Security Council. It has actually used the U.S. to block Pakistan on Kashmir. The U.S. seems willing enough to oblige India in some other areas also. India suffers from no qualms to milk the U.S. diplomatically, now under the cover of quiet diplomacy. The options for Pakistan, on the other hand, are limited. But while it does not have to let India take advantage of the U.S. obsession with the NPT, its own stance on the NPT as well as on Kashmir being a moral one, does not have to be compromised for the sake of expediency. The world, it is hoped, will come to distinguish between a moral position and an immoral one. It did so, after all, in the case of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

Minister Denounces Linking F-16 Sale to Nuclear Program

BK1504090394 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] The foreign minister, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, says supply of F-16 aircraft by the United States to Pakistan cannot be linked with its peaceful nuclear program. In an interview with BBC, he said the supply of the aircraft is

a commercial commitment of the American Administration for which Pakistan has already made payments. As for the American proposals relating to nuclear nonproliferation presented both to Pakistan and India, he said multilateral aspect of these proposals is quite interesting. Pakistan has agreed to move forward with some amendment in these proposals. He said we need to know about the American Administration's mind on the issue. The foreign minister said there is now a definite change in the thinking of the American Administration which is now prepared to look at Pakistan's position more reasonably. If this kind of confidence continues to develop, they would find answers to their problems without compromising their principles.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudis To Buy Submarines To Guard Gulf, Red Sea Coastlines

NC1404103794 Paris AFP in English 0902 GMT 14 Apr 94

[Text] Riyadh, April 14 (AFP)—Saudi Arabia plans to buy submarines to protect its coastlines both along the Gulf and the Red Sea, the official news agency SPA reported Thursday.

Deputy Defence Minister 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-Aziz, quoted by SPA, told naval officers in al-Dammam on Wednesday that his country wanted submarines which could adapt to the Red Sea and the more shallow waters of the Gulf.

Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman did not disclose if negotiations had opened for buying the vessels.

Iran, across the oil-rich Gulf from the Saudi kingdom, bought three submarines from Russia in 1992, raising concern among its Arab neighbours and their Western allies which have a naval presence in the strategic waterway.

SPA also reported that the national guard on Wednesday wound up a week of exercises on the Gulf coast of eastern Saudi Arabia.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Russian Nuclear Fuel Cassettes Arrive in Ukraine

LD1304135394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1308 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Kiev April 13 UKRINFORM-TASS—The first shipment of nuclear fuel cassettes has arrived from Russia at Europe's largest nuclear power station in Zaporizhzhie, Ukraine. It is a compensation for the nuclear warheads Ukraine has dismantled.

This means that practical implementation has begun of the measures envisioned in the trilateral statement signed by the presidents of Russia, Ukraine and the United States in Moscow in January.

According to specialists, the fuel delivered to the Zaporizhzhie nuclear power station will suffice to keep one of five power-generating units operating for a year and give Ukraine 5.5 to six billion kilowatt hours of cheap electricity.

Russia Compensates Ukraine for Dismantled Warheads

LD1404161094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1445 GMT 14 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—"The mechanism for implementing measures stipulated by the tri-partite statement made by the Presidents of Russia, Ukraine and the U.S. on 14 January of this year has started to work," said a spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Grigoriy Karasin was referring to the arrival of the first shipment of nuclear fuel assemblies from Russia to the Ukrainian Zaporozhye nuclear power plant, the largest of its kind in Europe. The shipment was sent as compensation for Ukraine's dismantled nuclear warheads.

As the spokesman, in accordance with the three presidents' statement, all nuclear warheads should be transferred from Ukrainian to Russian territory, where they should be dismantled as soon as possible. Russia is then required to compensate Ukraine in the form of fuel assemblies for the latter's nuclear energy programme, also as soon as possible.

In order to begin the process of compensating Ukraine, Russia agreed to provide the fuel assemblies, containing 100 tonnes of lowly-enriched Uranium, within ten months. In the same time period, at least 200 nuclear warheads from RS-18 and RS-22 rockets will be transported from Ukraine to Russia for dismantling.

According to Russian specialists, the first shipment of fuel to the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant is enough to enable one of the plant's five reactors to work for an

entire year, which will give Ukraine 5.5 to 6 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

Russian Official on Nuclear Fuel Installations for Ukraine

LD1404201994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1144 GMT 14 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Apr—"The mechanism for putting into effect the measures stipulated in the trilateral declaration of the presidents of Ukraine, Russia and the United States on 14 January has begun working." This was how Grigoriy Karasin, the director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's press and information department commented at a briefing today on reports of the arrival at the Zaporozhye AES, the largest in Europe, of the first batch of fuel installations [toplivye sborki] from Russia as part of compensation for dismantled nuclear warheads.

As the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman said, all nuclear munitions had, in accordance with the statement by the presidents of the three countries, to be brought from Ukraine to Russia in order for them to be dismantled as rapidly as possible, while Russia for its part had to provide compensation in the form of nuclear fuel installation deliveries to Ukraine to meet the needs of Ukraine's nuclear power sector during the same period of time.

In order to begin the process of compensating Ukraine, Russia had undertaken to supply it over 10 months with fuel installations containing 100 tonnes of low-level enriched [nizkoobogashchennyy] uranium for nuclear power stations. A minimum of 200 nuclear warheads off RC-18 and RS-22 missiles will be taken from Ukraine to Russia in the same period to be dismantled.

In the opinion of Russian experts, the first consignment of fuel received by the Zaporozhye AES is enough to power one of the power units for a year, providing Ukraine with 5.5-5.6 billion kilowatt hours of electricity.

Russian Plant's Finances May Affect Ukrainian Nuclear Disarmament

LD0704053694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0525 GMT 7 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Elmakov]

[Text] Novosibirsk April 7 TASS—The chemical plant in Novosibirsk is facing a tough financial situation which can affect the implementation of the Ukrainian nuclear disarmament programme.

The plant is the only enterprise in Russia which produces fuel for water-moderated water-cooled reactors which is to be shipped to Ukraine in exchange for its nuclear warheads.

The first batch of fuel assemblies was shipped to Ukraine in the end of March, deputy director general of the plant Vladimir Rozhkov told TASS on Thursday.

The Finance Ministry had to pay for the fuel nearly 30 billion roubles, but the enterprise had received no money so far and cannot buy a number of accessories necessary for the production of nuclear fuel assemblies.

Experts of the enterprise warned that reserves will last only for one month. If production stops many Russian nuclear power plants will remain without fuel as well.

"A disruption of nuclear fuel shipments to Ukraine is not ruled out because the state, which is acting as a contractor, does not fulfil its commitments in time," Rozhkov said.

Russia Removing Nuclear Weapons From Belarus on Schedule

LD1504090194 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] All nuclear weapons on the territory of Belarus belong to Russia, and it is moving them out in strict accordance with the schedule. This was stated on Thursday by Defense Minister Pavel Kozlovskiy after the session of the Commonwealth defense ministers' council. He also voiced the conviction that the whole nuclear arsenal will be removed to Russia by 1999, as agreed by treaty, and perhaps even before then.

Reporting on Dismissal of CBW Committee Chairman Kuntsevich

Yeltsin Dismisses Kuntsevich

LD0704120094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1139 GMT 7 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS—Boris Yeltsin dismissed on Thursday Anatoliy Kuntsevich, chairman of the committee on conventional problems of chemical and biological weapons at the Russian president for "numerous and rude violations of labour duties," the press service of the Russian leader said on Thursday.

Kostikov Gives Reasons for Dismissal

LD0804100194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0905 GMT 8 Apr 94

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 8 Apr—"The committee for conventions on chemical and biological weapons under the Russian president agreed to the transportation and storage of poisonous substances in a major populated area. That is why its chief Anatoliy Kuntsevich was dismissed by presidential decree." This was the explanation of the wording of Kuntsevich's dismissal "for a

single gross violation of duties" given by the head of state's press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov at a briefing in the Kremlin today.

Moreover, Vyacheslav Kostikov noted that Anatoliy Kuntsevich had spent many years working on the creation of chemical weapons and "it is difficult for a person to part from his child even if the child is dangerous." For this reason, the president's press secretary said, the person dealing with the destruction of the chemical arsenal should not be one who was involved in its creation.

Impact of Dismissal Viewed

PM1104131194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Apr 94 p 2

[Viktor Litovkin report: "Academician Kuntsevich Learned of His Dismissal in a Telephone Call from IZVESTIYA"]

[Text] The Russian president's Press Service disseminated a report through ITAR-TASS channels that "a presidential edict has released from his post Anatoliy Demyanovich Kuntsevich, chairman of the Committee on Convention Problems of Chemical and Biological Weapons under the Russian Federation president." It also pointed out that A. Kuntsevich has been released from his post "for a single gross violation of work duties."

The Press Service did not explain what kind of violation this was, and Vyacheslav Kostikov, the Russian president's press secretary, said at a briefing that there were such violations. But Kuntsevich's closest colleagues do not know of them, and he himself, so he declared in conversation with me, had not heard about this and learned of his dismissal only in a call from IZVESTIYA's editorial office.

Let us leave aside this, not the first occasion when someone released from a high state post learns of this from press reports. Particularly a prominent scientist who is one of the creators of the most sophisticated Soviet chemical weapons, winner of the Lenin Prize, hero of socialist labor, lieutenant general, and academician who, at the end of his scientific career, resolutely set about destroying these weapons.

Let us ask ourselves a different question: Why, after all, has Academician Kuntsevich been removed from his post, and what true reason hides behind the vague wording "single gross violation of work duties"?

There are several answers to this question. One version was suggested by observers: Kuntsevich has suffered...for the complete failure of the case of chemical scientist Vil Mirzayanov, which he supposedly initiated. In conversation with me the academician categorically denied his involvement in the "Mirzayanov case," although he has repeatedly and harshly condemned Mirzayanov's action.

In any case, the responsibility for that shameful trial lies, in my opinion, with the law enforcement organs.

The reason for Academician Kuntsevich's dismissal lies far deeper than it seems. It lies in our country's economic and technical inability and unpreparedness to fulfill its international obligations to destroy chemical weapons.

The program for the destruction of these weapons has not yet been approved either by parliament or by the government. The funding of all measures connected with preparations for the direct salvaging of toxins and ammunition is proceeding extremely irregularly and plainly inadequately, not to mention the actual program of their destruction. This year alone the preparations to rid Russia of chemical weapons are to cost 10.4 billion [currency not specified], but this [money] simply does not exist.

Academician Kuntsevich was categorically opposed to the destruction of chemical weapons without resolving social problems and without guarantees for the population resident in the places where they are stored and where it is proposed to salvage them. But sufficient funds have not been found for just these purposes. The program is slipping and is today under threat of being wrecked.

The Convention Committee tried to find nonbudgetary funds to implement the chemical disarmament program. In many ways it succeeded. We were given assistance in resolving these problems by the United States (the total amount exceeded \$60 million for the development of a safe and efficient technology for the destruction of toxins), the FRG, Sweden, and the EEC, and contacts were initiated with NATO. I am not sure if they will be broken off with Kuntsevich's departure from his post, but they will certainly be complicated somewhat—the academician's authority in international scientific circles is very great.

One thing remains beyond doubt—by signing the Convention on the Destruction of Chemical Weapons in Paris in 1993 along with 155 other states, Russia assumed juridical obligations to start parting with them in two years' time. It will hardly be able to keep to this deadline.

Statement on Chemical Weapons Heard in The Hague

*LD1104120394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1131 GMT 11 Apr 94*

[Text] The Hague April 11 ITAR-TASS—The session of the preparatory commission for the establishment of an international organisation in charge of monitoring the ban on chemical weapons heard a statement of the Russian delegate today. The statement stresses that much work has been done since the convention on chemical weapons was opened for signing more than a

year ago. The work mainly concentrated on working out and coordinating mechanisms of implementing the convention.

However, according to the Russian view, much has yet to be done to fulfil the mandate of the preparatory commission. Few of the twenty-three tasks set for the commission by the Paris resolution are close to completion, and nearly one half of the total number have not yet been properly considered.

Moreover, the statement says, we are alarmed by the attempts made from time to time in the course of the preparatory commission's work to revise the essence of certain clauses, as well as to enforce interpretations of the text, which was taken for granted at the moment of signing. In particular, this concerns the correlation of the national constitutional norms and the granting of access to chemical installations to inspectors at their request, the uncertainties in the understanding of the key definitions, such as "chemical weapons" and "a facility producing chemical weapons." In addition, Russia, which will have to bear the cost of eliminating and controlling its own stocks of chemical weapons, cannot agree to some of the proposals concerning the distribution of costs among all member-stations.

When signing the text of the convention on 13 January 1993 in Paris, Russia which has a stock of chemical weapons with the total weight of the toxic substances totalling 40,000 tonnes, was well aware of the scale of the obligations it assumed. However, proceeding from an understanding that the convention is a major step towards global disarmament and the strengthening of international security, and reflects a compromise reached as a result of difficult many-year negotiations, Russia was among the first to sign this international agreement. When signing the convention, Russia stressed that the realisation of the obligations under the convention will be contiguous with a number of economic difficulties. This implied the lessening of Russia's spending on international supervision and verification and elaboration of economically-acceptable procedures of conversion of the former facilities producing chemical weapons to peaceful uses. Russia counted on the possibility of a favourable solution of these problems.

During the parliamentary hearings about the participation of the Russian Federation in international agreements on the elimination of chemical weapons, some committees of the State Duma noted the need for the final clarification of the situation concerning the cost of the realisation of the convention. Questions about Russia's spending, as well as about the vague idea about the final text of the convention and the uniform interpretation of its key terms, the amount of basic obligations which determine the scope of the convention will inevitably arise when the document is submitted for ratification by the Russian Parliament and will in fact predetermine the result of its consideration. Unfortunately, in the past year, the preparatory commission has failed to examine the procedure of payments for the verification

activity and the conversion of chemical weapon plants to peaceful production, and no decisions on these matters have been made up to date.

Russia draws everyone's attention to the fact that the enforcement of the convention on chemical weapons in 1995 will be hampered by the failure to solve the above problems as soon as possible. This is necessary to allow the states that signed the convention to obtain a full idea about all aspects of implementing the convention at the stage of its ratification, the statement said.

Radio on 'Unfounded' Charges on Biological Weapons

LD1204193994 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 12 Apr 94

[Text] Last month, the British SUNDAY TIMES came up with allegations that Russia is developing biological weapons. The Russian Defense Ministry has strongly denied the allegations. Nevertheless, THE WASHINGTON POST has issued the same statement again recently. Vladislav Koznyakov comments:

What is surprising is that the authors of the publications about a biological weapons program allegedly under way in Russia refer to the White House, sources which in their turn quote statements by some anonymous defectors from Russia. And, moreover, the authors contradict each other. For one, an anonymous author says in THE WASHINGTON POST that he has got all the necessary evidence that the program exists, while another author states in the same newspaper that there is no evidence to prove the charges and therefore it can be only nonmilitary equipment that should be dismantled as well.

Hence, a question arises—what are the reasons for spreading such unfounded accusations concerning the Russian policy in the American mass media, with reference to the administration's officials?

An agreement is effective between Russia, the United States, and Britain on mutual visits to biological facilities of the three countries. Russian experts visited several facilities of the kind in the United States in February-March this year. British and American experts carried out similar inspections in Russia in 1992, last October, and last January. They were allowed to visit any laboratories and talk with employees and take pictures as well. And Western experts revealed no claims as to the observance of the 1972 convention banning biological weapons.

As for visiting American biological facilities, Russian experts faced serious obstacles. For one, they were not allowed into a number of laboratories and one building of a former plant of the (Phaser) firm, producing biological weapons. Certain restrictions were posed on them to take pictures and they were also denied to make biological tests. One of the facilities was opened for inspection only after the Russian Embassy interfered. Besides, experts from Russia found out that the (Phaser) firm not

only preserved but was modernizing the equipment designed earlier to produce biological warfare formulas. The information to that effect has been published in the Moscow-based newspaper IZVESTIYA.

Apparently there is only one way to provide strict observance of the 1972 convention banning biological weapons. The sides should work out a more effective control mechanism over the convention's implementation. Russia, for its part, intends to help promote the idea at the forthcoming session of the preparatory committee dealing with the control measures to observe the convention. Will the Western countries be ready for a stricter control system?

British TV Story on Miniature Neutron Bomb Using 'Red Mercury'

UK Television Carries Report

LD1504143094

[Editorial Report] London ITV Television Network in English at 2000 GMT on 13 April in its "Dispatches" program carries a 45-minute report entitled "Pocket Neutron," in which correspondent Gwyn Roberts reviews the findings of an 18-month investigation he conducted into red mercury, a chemical compound allegedly used by the Russians to develop a smaller, more efficient nuclear warhead.

The program opens with various shots of a border crossing in Como, northern Italy, and goes on to include a brief interview with Italian Magistrate Romano Dolce on the smuggling of red mercury through Italy. Asked about its final destination, Dolce, speaking in Italian with English subtitles, says: "Israel, Iraq, Iran, South Africa, and the rest of the world. Even Western countries like the United States seem interested in red mercury. Why should it be top secret? Why this silence? Why this fear of talking about it?"

Brief clips are then shown of Vladimir Zhirinovskiy during his visit to Serbia in February this year, followed by various street scenes in Moscow. Roberts then introduces a recording of an interview he conducted with an unidentified Kremlin official who, he says, has access to full government intelligence.

Roberts asks: "What proof do you have that there is such a substance?" The official replies: "The hardest evidence is the report prepared by the first chief directorate of the KGB. This report was prepared especially for Boris Yeltsin. The conclusion of this report is that there is no doubt that red mercury exists."

Roberts asks: "What military applications of red mercury are listed in the KGB report?"

The official states: "The production of fuses of high precision for conventional bombs. The production of fuses for nuclear bombs. The production of military

equipment coating to avoid radar detection, production of warheads for self-guided missiles of high precision."

Asked whether red mercury represents new technology, the official replies: "I think it does." He goes on to say that Iraq, Libya, Israel, and South Africa all wish to purchase red mercury because they all want nuclear weapons.

Roberts is then seen at the Moscow metro where he meets an unidentified former nuclear chemist who worked at a secret plant in the Urals. They are then seen in an apartment where the chemist is interviewed. Roberts asks why everyone denies that red mercury exists. The chemist replies: "Because of reasons of secrecy." Roberts asks: "Why should they want to keep it secret?" The chemist says: "Because it is the latest technology. If it is available to the Third World it may be a serious danger to existing order."

Still photographs are then shown of containers labeled RM 2020, followed by clips of diagrams of how red mercury can be used and a government document on the existence of the substance. A person described as the head of the Promocology company exhibits what purports to be the raw material for RM 2020. Scenes of the Moscow White House siege of 1993 are then shown.

Roberts then interviews an unidentified military scientist in Moscow, who he says worked as a nuclear physicist producing RM 2020 for five years.

Roberts asks: "Why is red mercury such a mystery?"

The scientist replies: "The fact is that it is the latest technology which allows an atom bomb to be made very simply."

Roberts asks: "So you are saying that with red mercury and nuclear materials an atom bomb could be easily assembled by Third World countries?"

The scientist replies: "Yes, that could happen."

Asked how red mercury would be used, the scientist states: "It can reduce the critical mass and increase the power of the explosion."

The program continues by showing extensive shots of the nuclear research center at Dubna, including close-up clips of the accelerator and other equipment, followed by footage of the military scientist meeting with British nuclear expert Frank Barnaby. The program then shows U.S. nuclear expert Dr. Ted Taylor videotaping questions to be put to the Russian military scientist, cutting to shots of Russian elections.

The program then shows street scenes in Ekaterinburg and a meeting with former nuclear physicist Yevgeniy Korolov, who replies to Dr. Taylor's questions.

Korolov says: "This technology is one of the most complex and one of the most dangerous. It enables you to create micro-nuclear charges. This means it can be used for nuclear terrorism."

The program continues with more shots of Ekaterinburg, followed by a meeting with another nuclear scientist willing to talk about red mercury who is shown Dr. Taylor's videotape questions. The scientist is then seen driving Roberts into the Urals to a plant where red mercury powder is said to be manufactured, showing medium and long shots of the plant against a snow-covered backdrop, followed by footage of a covert meeting with a weapons designer willing to answer Dr. Taylor's questions. His typewritten answers are shown to maintain his anonymity.

The program concludes with a visit by Roberts to a security company near Bonn, which trades with Russia and has business links with secret military plants producing radioactive isotopes. A document acquired in Ekaterinburg is shown which demonstrates that this company wishes to purchase 1,000 kg of RM 2020, cutting to what is described as a list of the chemical properties of RM 2020.

Bomb 'Impossible'

LD1304151794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1433 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow April 13 ITAR-TASS—Channel Four of British television is planning to screen a documentary on Wednesday that alleges that the Russian scientists have developed a miniature neutron bomb, the size of a baseball. It is developed on the basis of the so-called red mercury. British television has every right to select films for screening and advertise the show, but it would not be wrong to familiarize the film-makers and viewers with what Russian specialists and scientists think about it all.

"It is impossible to create a neutron bomb on the basis of red mercury," Professor Sergey Yakimov, deputy director of the Kurchatov Institute, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS.

Commenting on Western media reports alleging that Russian scientists have made a new discovery, Professor Yakimov said "this does not correspond to reality, for one simple reason: Red mercury does not and cannot exist in nature. It is a cyanic acid, the formula of which can be found in school chemistry books. It has nothing to do with radioactive components and cannot be used in any branch of atomic production."

According to Yakimov, two years ago the West was put on tenterhooks by rumors about cold thermonuclear processes, but a simple scientific verification procedure revealed it was no more than bluff. "I have no doubt that today's sensation is in for a similar end," he said.

Defense Ministry Denies Report

94WP0083A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
15 Apr 94 p 3

[Article by IZVESTIYA correspondent Aleksandr Krivopalov, London: "All of England Is Talking About 'Red Mercury' and a New Russian Weapon"]

[Text] People in London are discussing a documentary film that was shown on Channel 4 of British television, concerning a new and very secret mass-destruction weapon that has allegedly been created in Russia.

The portable bomb approximately the size of a cup of tea or a small ball is presumably capable of destroying every living thing in the radius of a large modern city or rayon.

Britons engaged in collecting material concerning this for 18 whole months, trying to find the confirmation of rumors that have been disturbing the Western press for a long time—rumors to the effect that secret smuggling channels are being used to ship out of Russia "red mercury," the very existence of which is denied by scientific-technical experts.

No, asserts G. Roberts, who leads the narration in the sensational British television research. This substance is not a myth: it is, in fact, a major component in a "clean" thermonuclear bomb that has presumably been made in Russia and nowhere else in the world. True, his conversational partners on the topic of "red mercury" remain, as a rule, anonymous, and their testimony sounds, one has to admit, not too convincing.

The attempt to get hold of responsible and knowledgeable commentators finally led the film makers to Yekaterinburg, where they photographed scenes that greatly resemble old James Bond hits: secret meetings at twilight with certain unknown individuals who first promised to provide the needed information, but at the last moment disappeared, frightened by the consequences.

Nevertheless the group from England would appear to have succeeded in learning the secrets about the weapon that can become a new and even more frightening threat for all of mankind. They met with a Russian scientist who personally, over a five-year period, allegedly participated in work on this project. In any case the film's consultants were convinced that that testimony is substantiated.

Another eminent expert in the field of nuclear physics, American Professor Cohen, has stated firmly that American scientists, so far as one can judge from the materials that were collected by the British television group, are lagging seriously behind their Russian colleagues in this area. In Cohen's opinion, now it will be impossible to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world.

At the end of the film there is an interview with the head of a major German company. That entrepreneur states

that he knows personally about proposals concerning such major sales of "red mercury" from Russia, and that he was simply terrified.

[Editor's note] A representative of RF Ministry of Defense has rejected the hypotheses concerning the existence both of "red mercury" and the "ninibomb" that was created on its basis (see IZVESTIYA, No. 70).

Report 'Absolutely Groundless'

LD1504104994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0956 GMT 15 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Mirniy (Archangelsk region) April 15 TASS—"Reports about a 'new Russian miniature bomb,' allegedly developed with the use of 'red mercury,' are absolutely groundless," ITAR-TASS was told today by Lieutenant-General Yuriy Zhuravlev, chief of the state testing ground of the Russian Strategic Missile Forces.

"Russia is not making or testing new types of nuclear weapons," he stressed.

The hullabaloo around the Russian "top secret weapon," the general believes, was raised by those who disapprove of the partnership relations that are now being established between Russia and the West. We have seen more than once in the past that whenever some military-industrial complex needed new funds, reports immediately began to appear, claiming that this or that country "is lagging behind the Russians," he recalled.

Zhirinovskiy's Elipton Weapon Allegedly Can Trigger Earthquakes

AU0704143894 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA
in Romanian 4 Apr 94 p 1

[Oana Stanculescu article: "ROMANIA LIBERA Has Obtained a Sensational Document—The Study Was Done by Military Experts Under the Coordination of the Foreign Intelligence Service: Zhirinovskiy's Earthquakes Are Threatening Romania"]

[Text] Related to various speculation that is being made in connection with the mysterious weapon mentioned by Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, Romanian experts have reached the conclusion that actually one has to deal with a maneuver launched by special Russian bodies intended to intoxicate public opinion, and which, owing to lack of information, have managed to fool the mass media in the West and even in our country. Thus, they went so far as to consider the Elipton a sonic weapon, a biological weapon, and even a microwave weapon, while the true nature of this military-technical system was lost in the general cacophony.

Elipton is a weapon system based on gravitational interference. After the last catastrophic earthquake that shook Yerevan, U.S. military analysts revealed two strange things: The catastrophe, which seemed to be a natural

one, occurred at a "providential" moment to halt Armenia's autonomist tendencies and it also offered the Soviet political-military authorities a good pretext to liquidate the Armenian nuclear power industry, and thus impose an acute energy dependence on that central republic; the second element refers to the fact that early-warning satellites recorded an orbital "double lightning," which preceded, by a very short time, the earthquake. That was an unmistakable sign of the detonation of a small-size nuclear load, contravening all currently valid international treaties. It was easy to draw conclusions: The Soviets have discovered a way to trigger earthquakes. Ten months later, using a rocket launched from an F-15 fighter-bomber (ASAT system), the United States managed to intercept, for the first time, a low-orbit satellite. The system was allegedly designed to destroy Soviet spy satellites, but actually it was the sole efficient defense to counter the use of the Elipton over U.S. territory. However, certain rumors had already reached the ears of the mass media—it was the time when many people believed in an imminent and catastrophic reactivation of the San Andreas fault, some sources even held it possible that "half of California would sink into the ocean," as a consequence of a devastating earthquake.

The advantages of the Elipton are obvious: It is a discreet weapon, and any accusations can be brushed off by saying it is a "phantasm," provided that it is used by daylight, so that its lightning could be camouflaged by the sun's natural light.

It is quite significant, that merely three days after Zhirnovskiy's extremely allusive statement regarding the Elipton, the Geophysical Institute of the Russian Academy organized a news conference on the issue of seismic weapons, although no one had explicitly talked about such a thing. That news conference seems to be rather the result of panic. The Russians did not know precisely to what extent Zhirnovskiy, the former GRU [Soviet Military Intelligence] agent, had divulged about the Elipton, and they assumed that Western journalists were at least aware of the exact nature of that weapons system and the name of the person coordinating the program, which, as it later turned out, was not the case at all. During this news conference they claimed that in fact the Elipton does not exist at all: "Earthquakes cannot be triggered except in the places where nature has already prepared them," said the official statement, which, as a matter of fact, was quite precise. The statement actually confirmed previous information about the existence of the Elipton-type weapon systems and about their nature, and it also offered an exact description of the way in which they work. The Hammer [as published] triggers earthquakes wherever there is accumulated tension in the ground, which can be unleashed by a minimal variation of the gravitational acceleration. Thus, they can trigger earthquakes—the magnitude of which, it is true, is very difficult to predict—in areas in which over the past 1,000 years there has not been any seismic activity at all.

The Romanian state is directly vulnerable to weapons such as the Hammer or the Hole [as published] that are part of the Elipton program. Important industrial centers of our country and vital establishments of our defense industry are situated in valley areas such as Tara Barsei [central Romania, where the Carpathian Mountains turn], in which the triggering of catastrophic tornadoes could cause enormous damage to our industrial infrastructure. Moreover, owing to the existence of the seismic area in Vrancea [north-eastern Romania], the possible use of Hammer-type weapons there would cause a catastrophe in Bucharest, considering the current precarious state of the buildings in our capital city.

Such weapons might be used in the near future if a geopolitical conflict breaks out as a consequence of the unification of the Republic of Moldova with Romania or of our country's active integration within NATO. No methods are known to counter such weapons. However, one could count on warning signs offered by attempts to use them, which fail owing to insufficient precision.

General Says Country Not Testing, Producing Nuclear Weapons

*LD1104171994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1628 GMT 11 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Mirny (Murmansk region) April 11 TASS—"Russia is neither producing nor testing nuclear weapons," ITAR-TASS was told by Lieutenant-General Yuriy Zhuravlev, head of the state testing area under Russia's Strategic Missile Command.

On Monday, a large group of journalists from various publications, information agencies, and radio and tv stations arrived at the top secret garrison in Mirny. They will be able to acquaint themselves with some of Russia's latest military technology, in particular, with the "Topol" experimental missile system which is expected to become part of the armed forces in a couple of years.

The journalists' arrival corresponded with celebrations of Cosmonaut's Day. In Mirny, this holiday is widely celebrated, since much has been done here for progress in space.

"We have no secrets to hide from Russians and the world community, but our openness does not hinder our responsibility for the security of Russia," Yuriy Zhuravlev declared.

Panov Calls for Multilateral Conference on Korean Crisis

LD0704184194

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1425 GMT on 7 April broadcasts a 15-minute program entitled "The Korean Knot" presented by Vitaliy Ilyashenko. The program includes a factual account by the correspondent on the

crisis around the DPRK's nonobservance of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. A studio discussion is chaired by Ilyashenko with Aleksandr Panov, deputy minister of foreign affairs and Professor Anatoliy Torkunov, rector of the Institute of International Relations.

Panov says that in view of the high troop concentration on the border between the Korean states the situation is very volatile there. He goes on to call for a multilateral international conference on the problem, saying: "We believe that we should, that it is right to use the channels in existence—the Security Council, certainly—but since the bilateral variant is not working, let us then go back to the idea of a multilateral conference. It should be said that no one has yet—but we have only just put this idea forward—no one has yet, as they say, swept it aside—even the DPRK, although when I explained this initiative to the North Korean ambassador in Moscow he already knew about the initiative and did not react negatively to it.

"Other countries are also studying it. The United States have come out and said that in principle they believe that such a conference should be well prepared—and we agree—and they have already put forward a set of positions that should be reinforced during the conference. These are the unconditional and full return of the DPRK to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. All of this coincides with our policy. But we need to go further. We need to give some sort of guarantee to North Korea and ensure the nonnuclear status of the Korean peninsula and the sovereignty of the Korean states and non-intervention in their internal affairs. So, there is a complex of measures to go through before we can solve this problem."

Asked what the treaty between Russia and the DPRK would mean in the event of a deterioration in the military situation on the Korean peninsula, Panov says: "As the legal successor of the Soviet Union, Russia continues to fulfill the commitments of that treaty. It has not been denounced and the only thing, of course, is that the situation has changed, and therefore we have made a statement of which the DPRK has been informed: How we interpret the article that stipulates assistance and support for the DPRK in the event of an emergency situation of the kind."

"It was stated that assistance would be given only in the event of an unsanctioned aggression against the DPRK. We ourselves will analyze the situation on the basis of our own sources of information and how the problems are dealt with. We will assess the degree of threat, the degree of aggression and its character, and we will operate within our legislation and our Constitution, and we will certainly take into account Russia's international obligations—for instance those under the International Atomic Energy Agency Treaty and the UN Charter. So our position here is quite clear."

When the discussion turned to the possibility of UN sanctions against the DPRK, Panov says: "We believe that matters should not be brought to the level of sanctions and that if it is impossible to solve this within the framework of the Security Council, then there is the option of a conference. That is to say, there is quite a way to go before we arrive at sanctions. We need to use every option."

'Unique' Missile Flight Control System Set Up in Mirny

*LD1304164294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1456 GMT 13 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Mirny, Arkhangelsk region April 13 TASS—The setting up of a unique system of control for missile flights at the command post of the range has been completed, ITAR-TASS was told by General Nikolay Yudin, chief of staff of the state range of strategic rocket forces in the Arkhangelsk region.

He said the range has become a major scientific center in Russia. Officers manning the command post are candidates of technical sciences. A computer system for flight control has been created at the initiative of one of them, Lieutenant-Colonel Yashchenko.

From 1992 the range has been serving the task of insurance and monitoring of the observance of treaty-governed obligations between Russia and the United States for the exchange of telemetric information on missile launchings, General Yudin said. The Russian Strategic Rocket Forces now have at their disposal a unique and Russia's only experimental base for testing all kinds of missiles, for processing and analysis of the information strictly in accordance with the treaty on strategic offensive arms.

As is known, a large group of journalists arrived at the secret garrison in Mirny on April 11. The journalists were given an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the latest equipment, specifically with the pilot sample of the missile complex Topol which will be adopted for service in several years. The arrival of journalists coincided with the celebration of Cosmonautics Day. It is broadly celebrated in Mirny as much has been done here for space exploration. "We keep no secrets from the Russian and world public, but our openness does not lower our sense of responsibility for Russia's security. Russia can be confident on its security," General Yuriy Zhuravlev, chief of the range, told reporters.

Plutonium From Dismantled Weapons Could Soon Be Recycled

*LD1404111994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0221 GMT 14 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Hiroshima, 14 Apr—The Russian Ministry of Nuclear Energy believes that within seven to 10 years all plutonium left from dismantled nuclear weapons in Russia could in principle be recycled on three-four breeder reactors of the new BN-800 type (sodium cooled fast breeder reactor - ITAR-TASS). Nikolay Yermakov, head of the Russian delegation at the conference of the Japanese nuclear industry forum, currently being held here, told this ITAR-TASS correspondent that a first reactor of this type is already being built at one of the nuclear industry centers in Chelyabinsk-40, and that the local authorities have approved its completion within the next several years.

Nikolay Yermakov, who heads the directorate of nuclear reactors at the Russian Atomic Energy Ministry, said the question of Japan's purchase of highly enriched fissile substances from Russia's dismantled nuclear warheads is still "up in the air" because Tokyo "is not showing any activity in response to Russia's proposals."

The head of the Russian delegation believes that until about 2010 Russian nuclear power engineering will continue to develop light-water reactors, which use thermal neutrons, because the country's power engineering needs are at present satisfied by cheap uranium.

However, he believes that from about the second decade of the 21st century there will be a shift to a plutonium program, and a closed power engineering system will be built on the basis of breeder reactors, using both thermal and fast neutrons. "This will enable us to use breeder reactors not only to produce but also to recycle—that is to burn—plutonium from light-water installations with a minimal emission of radioactive waste," he said.

Nuclear Complex Open to International Cooperation

LD1404102094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0935 GMT 14 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Hiroshima April 14 TASS—Contemporary nuclear arms are a means of maintaining the world military-political balance. The only alternative to them is a regime of total international confidence. This is stated in a report of the Russian delegation submitted to the 27th conference of the Japanese atomic industrial forum underway here. The report has been drawn up by the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy. It believes that the Russian nuclear complex which is experiencing difficult times should export more electricity generated by nuclear power plants and should heavily rely on the export of technologies and a number of materials. It should be open to international cooperation.

In view of the unstable situation in the world, while nuclear disarmament is in progress, the complex of nuclear arms is under certain obligations, says the report. More stable, easier verifiable and predictable strategic

arms systems should be preserved while surplus, morally an/ obsolete provocatively dangerous kinds of nuclear arms should be eliminated.

Russia spends up to one thousand billion roubles a year to dismantle such armaments, according to the information of the Ministry of Atomic Energy. The basic stocks of arms are worn to over 50 per cent. A large-scale modernisation is required in keeping with contemporary demands, also in order to dismantle and utilise nuclear arms.

The Ministry of Atomic Energy regards as a way out a broader use of vast scientific and technological potential accumulated over the decades of the development of the atomic industry. "In addition to large state investment, Russia's participation in the market of high technologies and scientific and technological progress with drawing foreign capital in reasonable and mutually advantage proportion would be useful to all sides," says the report. "The ministry annually receives 80 million dollars of additional financing for scientific and technological projects. As a result of external financing of projects carried out at enterprises of the Ministry of Atomic Energy with the subsequent joint use."

The new generation of nuclear power and thermal stations with fuel recycling and deactivation of waste, including slow-neutron and fast-neutron reactors with the use of uranium-plutonium fuel and the uranium-thorium cycle also requires considerable outlays. These power plants will be much more safer because of features of their design including an uncontrolled chain reaction of nuclei. Russia views as an additional source of investment into the area the expansion of the export of electricity generated by nuclear power plants, of equipment and fuel for power plants, including products for the utilisation of weapon-grade uranium and plutonium, as well as rare-earth metals, medical isotopes and high-calory fertilizer which are produced in the framework in the nuclear complex. This investment will reach one billion dollars this year.

General Cites Peaceful Uses for Strategic Missile Complex

LD1204142194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1102 GMT 12 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Mirny, Arkhangelsk Region, April 12 TASS—The Topol (Poplar) missile complex, which has no analogues in the world, is not only operational with Strategic Missile Forces (SMF) to ensure Russia's worthy parity but is also used for peaceful purposes. Lieutenant-General Yuriy Zhuravlyov, chief of the state test site of the SMF, told ITAR-TASS on Tuesday.

The launch of a "Start" communications satellite demonstrated the Topol's unique resources in the peaceful uses of outer space. A heavy-duty communications satellite is to be launched soon, Zhuravlyov said.

Within the framework of Russian defence-industry conversion to civilian uses, experts consider the possibility of using the test site facilities for participation in commercial launchings, in which many countries show interest. If only initial funding, which will subsequently bring in revenue quickly, is essential for implementing conversion programmes. The allocation of funds for the needs of the state test site of the SMF has been now reduced to the minimum, Zhuravlyov lamented.

Buran Shuttle Producers Beseet by Economic Gloom

PM1304095194 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 94 p 1

[Tamara Smirnova report: "Buran's Creators Have Become Watchmen"]

[Excerpts] Only fanatics are left here now. Each morning they pass through the gate of their strict-regime enterprise and head along winding, echoing corridors to the shops and departments. It is hard to believe, looking at the shrouded instruments and the immobile bulks of machine tools, that quite recently everything here was humming, blinking, and vibrating—in short, life was in full swing. People were working in three shifts, as though possessed, not requiring a rest. There was something fantastic in the hush-hush Science-and-Production Association of Automation and Instrument Building, commonly known as the "Pilyugin firm." [passage omitted]

"My shop manufactured 42 instruments for Buran," Boris Kurochkin, leader of precision mechanics, said. "They control the craft from lift-off to landing. We take a month to 'lick into shape' a single component. Whereas it is possible to train a fitter in a year or two, it takes 10-15 years to 'perfect' an assembler-fitter in precision mechanics. The shop is unique. It produces unique instruments. For comparison: In the past there was one Faberge, but we have several. An attempt was made to adapt our Faberges to flow production. The result was lamentable: They all skedaddled. One is in roofing, another guards a warehouse, yet another serves in a store. The explanation for all this is simple—no wages. In the capitalist world a specialist of such caliber has earnings at the level of a banker. Here he makes less than a cleaning woman. How is it possible to keep an ace of precision mechanics on 40,000 rubles? Talk with the workers yourself...."

The shop where gyrostabilizer platforms are assembled and regulated. Here the need for cleanliness is as in an operating theater—specks of dust are counted per liter of air. Assemblers have to wear special cambric clothes. Even the cloths that are technically necessary to wipe surfaces are made of the same very fine fabric.

But this was in the past. This is how it was. Today there are no components on the work table of team leader Zinaida Bakhtina—just a ball of wool and knitting needles.

"Have you taken up knitting to while away the time?"

"Yes, unfortunately. There are no orders. Out of 22 work days we are employed for three or four, God willing. Specialists have gone into commerce. I am not suited for it. My soul does not accept what is going on in the country. A complete breakdown...."

Valentin Bykov, chief of the testing and diagnosis department, is still harsher in his views:

"The democrats are lying when they say we squander money. Russian technology is exceptionally economical—it bears no comparison with U.S. technology in terms of expenditure. Our engineer is more qualified and competent. He lets only a perfected article take off. In retrospect, we have had considerably fewer failures than the United States. But what are we forced to engage in now? Some businessmen came to us with their problem: They said they had brought equipment to counterfeit fashionable jeans but were afraid to install it on the second floor of a dry-cleaning establishment. Were the machine tools too heavy, and would the building suddenly collapse? We carried out their instructions and received money. But this is hack work! I am ashamed."

There is a lot of argument in the firm about conversion. In principle, the science-and-production association has never avoided tackling national economic tasks. It has been making medical equipment for more than a year. Designers are drawing up a system for the control of nuclear stations. They are racking their brains over a ground-effect machine, a huge transport craft capable of flying over the sea at low altitudes. Or take an instrument to predict earthquakes. Using complex algorithms and taking 21 indicators into account, the apparatus "paints" a portrait of the elements and predicts shocks long before they happen. But there has never been a demand for the method. The country is not creditworthy. It cannot afford the latest technologies. There can be no question of scientific developments for the long term.

No, it will not be a joyous festival for the creators of automatic space equipment. Rendered lifeless by poverty-stricken funding, the sector is withering day by day. But it is not even the beggary existence that oppresses its creators but the lack of demand for their very lofty intellect. The country is losing its priorities in the world. The beautiful Buran has already been set up in Gorkiy Park to amuse the crowd. What will it be turned into—a sideshow or maybe a bar? A bird that was born to fly has had its wings clipped. Is not the same fate being prepared for Russia?

ESTONIA

Government To Join Nuclear Defense Conventions
WS0704092594 Tallinn ETA in English 1607 GMT
6 Apr 94

["News Release"]

[Text] Estonian parliament on Wednesday [6 April] decided to join five nuclear defence conventions obliging

Estonia to inform international community immediately of any accidents.

Joining Vienna and Paris conventions entitles Estonia also to certain international rights and enables the country to apply for help in case of accidents, Tarand said. He also stressed that these conventions would be a basis for negotiations if anything should happen when Russia removes its nuclear training reactors from Paldiski, a former submarine training base for the Soviets.

KAZAKHSTAN

Nazarbayev Calls for Nuclear Test Ban by August 1995

LD0804101594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0930 GMT 8 Apr 94

[By KAZTAG correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Tokyo April 8 TASS—President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev called to ban nuclear tests on the planet by August 1995 when the 50th anniversary of nuclear strikes on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is to be marked.

Speaking to reporters he said his people, like the Japanese, had suffered from nuclear weapons.

"If Japan faced an open nuclear attack, the (former) USSR used the weapons against Kazakhstan in peace time by conducting a total of 527 tests" at the Semipalatinsk range, he said, adding that over 100 of them were ground and air explosions.

Nearly half a million of people of Kazakhstan were affected by the blasts, according to Nazarbayev.

State Plans To Build Second Fast-Neutron Reactor

LD0604093094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0839 GMT 6 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Karlov]

[Text] Moscow April 6 TASS—Kazakhstan plans to build its second fast-neutron reactor. It will have the capacity of 170 megawatt. The newspaper of the Kazakh business circles PANORAMA said the decision was taken on the strength of the results of the operation in Kazakhstan for other 20 years of the world's first BM-350 fast-neutron reactor, the only one in the CIS that is situated not far from the city of Shevchenko. [sentence as received]

ITAR-TASS learned from Rosenergoatom concern, Russian nuclear energy concern, that this statement is not keeping with reality. A more powerful reactor, BM-600, that is regarded as the most reliable and most safest

has long been functioning at the Beloyarsk nuclear power station. The project for the installation at the same station of a reactor of the next generation of BM-800, has actually been completed. A similar reactor is to be assembled in the Chelyabinsk area.

The construction of a new nuclear power plant in Kazakhstan is a state project. Funds in the amount of 15 million tenge have already been allocated. But the problem of design work that is done mostly by Russian and Kazakh specialists has not yet been resolved.

UKRAINE

Officers Seize Fifty-Five Kg Radioactive Cesium-137 in Zaporizhzhya

AU0804173794 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
5 Apr 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Some Commodity!"]

[Text] Officers of Ukraine's Security Service and Internal Affairs Administration in Zaporizhzhya Oblast revealed and detained a Zaporizhzhya resident P., who had been engaged in selling radioactive cesium-137. Other criminals were also detained with material evidence: Two containers weighing 55 kg each with inscriptions on them: "Gamma-radiation. Radioactive nuclide cesium-137" and with a warning: "Radioactive danger."

In accordance with tentative data, the radiation level of the containers was much higher than the allowed norm.

A criminal case has been initiated and an investigation is in progress.

Expelled Swede Sought To Obtain Nuclear Warhead Components

LD1604082694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2005 GMT
15 Apr 94

[Text] On 15 April the press center of the Security Service of Ukraine reported that Swedish subject Erik Olaf Estenson, born in 1962, who was temporarily staying on the territory of our state, was expelled from Ukraine for attempts to carry out actions which can be qualified as international nuclear terrorism in relation to a foreign state.

As UNIAN learned from reliable sources, the Swedish subject was seeking contacts with relevant specialists with the aim of taking nuclear warhead components away from Ukraine. According to unofficial data, the organization which, presumably, tasked Estenson has not yet been disclosed.

Kiev Expresses Interest in Joining MTCR*LD1304161494 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 12 Apr 94*

[Text] Kiev, [no dateline as received]—According to UNIAN, during U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry's visit to Ukraine, Ukraine's foreign affairs minister was given a memorandum that explained the official U.S. position with regard to cooperation with Ukraine in the missiles and space sphere. The document, in particular, concerns the obligatory terms under which the United States will consider it possible to establish mutual relations between the two states in the above-mentioned sphere: Ukraine's accession to the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and its refusal to manufacture offensive missile systems according to MTCR categories and classifications. Stressing that the United States "will not assist and will not engage in trade if such activity contributes to the development of systems in the MTCR category and even space carrier rockets," the U.S. side noted Ukraine's interest to accede to the MTCR which has recently been established and is ready to assist Ukraine in this.

During William Perry's visit, a preliminary agreement was also reached about the fact that the U.S. side would, at the end of April, conduct further talks with Ukraine on these issues. On 12 April, during a news conference on the occasion of World Aviation and Cosmonaut Day, in reply to a question from a UNIAN correspondent whether such talks would take place, Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov said that work in this area was underway. Ukraine in particular is "attempting to convince the U.S. to be somewhat more considered in its attitudes to the realities that Ukraine finds itself in." The deputy prime minister stressed, in particular, that directness and unambiguity in the talks could lead to Ukraine losing its rocket technology and personnel, and it is not known where Ukraine would end up tomorrow. In Valeriy Shmarov's words, in the last few days, a letter was received by him from William Perry in which the "U.S. side agreed with us on many things," and undoubtedly by the end of April there would be consultations and an exchange of views on this matter.

Based on the course of the talks and development of events in Ukraine itself, Valeriy Shmarov expressed certainty that Ukraine would accede to the MTCR and will become the founder of a new Cocom regime. According to information received by UNIAN on the same day, as a political step toward Ukraine's full membership of MTCR, the United States has proposed the conclusion of a bilateral U.S.-Ukrainian agreement with the aim of acceding to the main principles of MTCR.

Defense Minister on Control of Remaining Nuclear Arms*LD1104210394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2012 GMT 11 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Temnenkov—all quotation marks as received]

[Text] Bonn April 12 TASS—Replying to a question as to who controls nuclear weapons deployed on Ukraine's territory, the republic's Defence Minister V. Radetskiy, who was addressing a press conference at the end of his visit to Germany, said that at present there is a bilateral control on such weapons. But it is ordered by Ukraine, as "it is her property, the minister emphasised. A tripartite agreement on nuclear weapons was signed and a time-table of its withdrawal and destruction was approved this year in Moscow through the U.S. mediation. The Ukrainian side is consistently and sincerely observing" this time-table, he said. According to him, until now two train loads of nuclear warheads have been despatched to Russia. In exchange Ukraine was supposed to receive fuel for its nuclear power plants from Russia. But Russia has not fulfilled this condition for the time being. "That is why we have been obliged to suspend the time-table of withdrawal, to clarify it and make it binding on Russia to honour its commitments," he said.

Shmarov Says Country Can Develop Space Industry*LD1204200394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1946 GMT 12 Apr 94*

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev April 12 TASS—Over 100 Ukrainian enterprises and institutes have taken the most active part in design and production of space machinery since the very beginning of the space industry, Ukrainian Vice-Premier Valeriy Shmarov told a news conference on the day of space exploration here today.

In his words, Ukraine has designed and produced over 400 spacecraft, including a series of Cosmos satellites and almost all satellites of the Intercosmos series, as well as Tsyklon and Zenit rocket-boosters. He said the republic is able to develop the space industry. Last year Ukraine discussed a national space program, which is envisaged by the state budget.

President of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences academician Boris Paton told correspondents about the contribution of Ukrainian scientists in the space industry. Their developments focused on the technologies of metal welding, cutting and spraying in space, which is very important for long space flights.

The news conference was also attended by director of the Ukrainian Government's Space Agency Vladimir Gorbunin, director of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences' main astronomic observatory Yaroslav Yatskiv and chairman of the Space Federation Anatoliy Zavalishin.

Official Details Use of EU Funds for Nuclear Industry*WS1204120794 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2105 GMT 11 Apr 94*

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 15, Apr 4-10, 94]

[Text] The European Union's [EU] TACIS [expansion unknown] "Nuclear Safety" section provides for 54

million ECU earmarked for Ukraine's nuclear power industry over the 1991-1993 period.

However, until quite recently, the promised aid failed to assume a material quality, having been reduced to advisory services.

In the meantime, TACIS envisages not only intellectual, but technical aid by way of equipment and spare parts to be supplied to Ukrainian nukes.

As Vladimir Kolesnikov, chief specialist with the State Committee for nuclear power utilization, disclosed in an interview to UKRINFORM, by August this year three Ukrainian NPPs [nuclear power plants] (the South Ukrainian, Rivne and Zaporozhye nukes) will have been supplied German Fishner-made equipment worth \$4.5 million. The equipment will improve the nuke's nuclear safety systems.

Besides, experts of Spain's Unesa and Belgium's Tractebelle are working at the South Ukrainian NPP. France's Electricite de France sent its experts on a similar mission to the Rivne nuclear power plant. Both teams' aim is to enhance the plants' safety standards.

Britain's AEA Technology is to start work aimed at eventual deactivation of the Chernobyl NPP's first, second and third power generating units.

The Ukrainian Ministry for Chernobyl is shortly to hold international tenders for a feasibility study, which involves the Shelter project for the Chernobyl NPP's ill-fated fourth reactor. The project's financing will be TACIS-covered to the tune of 3.5 million ECU.

Conference Discusses Aspects of Nuclear Disarmament

AU1504123494 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
13 Apr 94 p 7

[Natalya Filipchuk report: "The Road Has Been Chosen. How To Cover It?"—first paragraph published in bold-face]

[Text] On 7 and 8 April, the conference "The Road Toward a Nonnuclear Future; Ecological Problems of Ukraine's Nonnuclear Status and Human Psychology" was held in Kiev in the Ukrainian Building for Economic and Scientific and Technological Knowledge.

The conference was largely sponsored by the Global and Regional Security Institute. The Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Machine Building, Military-Industrial

Complex, and Conversion organized it. Vice prime minister Valeriy Shmarov, who opened the conference, made the following comment upon the fact: "The Ministry of Defense is interested in new scientific developments as a consumer. The Ministry of Machine Building—as a contractor...." Regarding scientists, they also tried to specify their role in the future nuclear conversion and asked how long the information (partially published in the foreign press) that is essential for their elaborations, will be withheld from them. To this Shmarov replied: Foreign journalists know how to work and the always obtain the necessary information.

However, this strictly practical question sounded very routine against the background of the issues that were discussed at the esteemed academic gathering. Namely: political and legal aspects of nuclear disarmament; the development of programs for destroying nuclear missile weapons and ecological and economic problems of their implementation; how to prevent the spread of radiation through subsurface water; the safety of the population residing near potentially hazardous facilities; the psychological syndrome that may afflict the liquidators of the accident at the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant in the future; social guarantees for servicemen from those military formations that will be disbanded. With regard to the latter, vice premier Shmarov said this: Seventy-five percent of all the capital allocated for the disarmament program (according to some tentative estimates, it is \$2.5 billion—N. F.), will, in all probability, be spent on the social protection of servicemen dismissed from military service, on finding new working places for unique specialists, and on reprofiling. Incidentally, on this particular issue, no common language was found with the U.S. side.

A considerable sum is also allocated for ensuring ecological aspects of nuclear disarmament. In the opinion of the majority of speakers, Ukraine must abandon the idea of accumulating nuclear waste on its territory and utilizing (which is extremely expensive) the radioactive fuel in the hope to later emerge onto the international market with newly produced uranium, something upon which some specialists insist. All the more so since this will be difficult to accomplish in the near future. In the next 15 years, Russia will supply uranium to the United States (500 tonnes, in accordance with an agreement). The conference, which was prepared at the highest level and at which interesting and, the main thing, realistic reports were delivered, proved that Ukraine has a chance to cover that road toward a nonnuclear future, but there will be many problems and shocks on that road.

FRANCE

Defense Council Decides Not To Delay Major Defense Projects

BR0704152694 Paris *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*
in French 7 Apr 94 p 4

[Unattributed article: "Defense Programming Law Under Development"]

[Text] Yesterday, Francois Mitterrand chaired a Defense Council meeting on the 1995-2000 military programming law, which will then be adopted by the Council of Ministers before its submission to the spring session of Parliament. In line with the White Paper on Defense, the law will give precedence to equipment currently being manufactured as opposed to research and development programs (development of prototypes). According to a senior defense official, "delaying large armament programs some more was quite a tempting option," but "we preferred to give priority to the deployment of modern equipment in the Armed Forces." Accordingly, no further delays are expected for programs relating to the Charles-de-Gaulle aircraft carrier, Rafale fighter aircraft, "Triomphant"-type missile-launching nuclear submarines (SNLE), and Helios observation satellites. Orders for Leclerc tanks should keep coming in. Nevertheless, brand new programs will be postponed, including those concerning the NH-90 transport helicopter and the M5 ballistic nuclear missile, for which a consensus had to be found between the prime minister and the president of the Republic. The deployment of M5 missiles in SNLE submarines, a pet project of the president, will probably be postponed from 2005 to 2010. In exchange, the prime minister has reportedly agreed to commission studies on a land-based version of the M4/M45 missiles, which would replace the S3 ground-to-ground missiles installed in the Albion platform in 2005.

Triomphant Nuclear Submarine Makes Maiden Voyage

BR1804140794 Paris *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*
in French 18 Apr 94 p 7

[Text] On Friday, [15 April], the Triomphant, the first of France's second-generation missile-launching nuclear submarines, made its maiden voyage from the naval port of Cherbourg. It will undergo a period of testing before entering into active service in 1997. During the next few days, the 13,000-tonne vessel will make its first static submersion off Cherbourg, and it is scheduled to arrive in Brest within two weeks. According to its manufacturers, it is "the most silent submarine in the world."

Ariane 5 MPS Motor Body Passes Structural Test

BR1204094294 Paris *LA LETTRE DU GIFAS*
10 Mar 94 in English pp 1-2

[Unattributed article: "SEP: Structural Qualification Testing of the Solid Fuel Engine of the Ariane 5"]

[Text] A key phase was passed on 11 February 1994 in the development of the MPS (Solid Propellant Motor), the solid fuel power plant of the Ariane 5. CNES [National Center of Space Studies] has commissioned Europropulsion (a subsidiary of SEP [European Propulsion Company] France and BPD [expansion unknown] Italy) with the project. Working out of the MPA University of Stuttgart, Man Technologie of Germany, in charge of developing the body of the engine, submitted the metal structure of the engine (the most powerful powder burning engine ever built in Europe) to structural qualification testing at limit internal and external loads up to rupture point. Preparation of the model and procedures had been handled by Man Technologie and Andritz (Austria) under prime contractorship of Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (Division Propulsion a Poudre et Composites du Haillan [Haillan Powder and Composite Propulsion Division]). The one-month test period illustrated the ability of the motor body to withstand, with the required margins, all stress generated on the ground and in flight by the MPS and Ariane 5 space rocket. Rupture occurred under a pressure of 92 bars (1.4 times normal engine operating pressure) in accordance with the anticipated scenario.

For the third fire-up test of the MPS now being prepared at Kourou, engine attachment to structure will be representative of flight configuration. The qualification testing of 11 February 1994 constitutes the green light of Europropulsion to continue this preparation work. The Ariane 5 is a program of the European Space Agency which has commissioned CNES with technical and financial management.

GERMANY

BDI Demands Relaxation Of Arms Export Regulations

AU1004184494 Berlin *DIE WELT* in German 9 Apr 94 p 14

[“rmc”-signed report: “BDI For Relaxing Arms Exports”]

[Text] Bonn—The Federation of German Industries (BDI) has demanded a relaxation of the strict German arms export regulations. The demand was precipitated by the government's new white book on security policy and Bundeswehr matters that declares the existence of a “modern, competitive and efficient arms industry to be a part of security precautions.” The BDI tells Bonn that this is “not possible at zero cost and without political compromise within the alliance in adjusting arms regulations.” The BDI refers to the uncompromising position of some important European partner countries that have refused to follow the strict German regulations. The German arms industry will only regain its international competitiveness if the Federal Government abolishes “the marked disadvantage that German companies are experiencing.”

ITALY

State Group Buys Into Anti-Missile Control Venture

BR1204092294 Paris LA LETTRE DU GIFAS
in English 10 Mar 94

[Unattributed article: "Alenia Takes Shares in Eisys, a Joint Thomson-CSF and EIS Venture"]

[Text] Via its Alenia branch, the Italian group FINMECCANICA [Mechanical Engineering Finance Corporation] has taken a stake in the Eisys Co. a joint venture created at Rome in 1992 by Thomson-CSF and Elettronica Ingegneria Sistemi (EIS SpA [joint stock company]). The new equity holdings will be: Thomson-CSF (37.5 percent and EIS SpA (25 percent). For Alenia/FINMECCANICA and for Thomson-CSF, Eisys is a valuable partner for the building of data processing systems for European FSAF (Future Surface-to-Air Family) anti-air systems in which Thomson-CSF and Aerospaziale participate for France and Alenia for Italy under the EUROSAM [expansion unknown] venture.

NORWAY

Godal on Kola Peninsula, Arctic Region Nuclear Safety

PM1404115894 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian
9 Apr 94 p 3

[Ole Mathismoen report: "Norway Cannot Give Much Help to the Kola"]

[Text] Russia cannot afford nuclear safety in the northern regions. And Norway cannot afford to give very much help.

This was Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal's conclusion yesterday when he yesterday put before the Storting a report on nuclear safety and chemical weapons in the regions close to northern Norway.

The Cold War has been succeeded by major environmental challenges. In areas very close to Norway there are enormous temporary dumps of nuclear waste, several dozen abandoned nuclear submarines, an old and unsafe nuclear power station, and large quantities of nuclear arms.

"It goes without saying that Russia has an independent responsibility for safety at nuclear installations and for solving the problems of waste. But neither Russia nor the other states of Eastern Europe are able to give this the highest priority. Such enormous resources are needed to

sort all this out that the only possibility is broad international cooperation," the foreign minister said. He mentioned NATO, the EU [European Union], the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council as possible forums for such cooperation.

The foreign minister stressed strongly that Norway can only be involved in a small way in paying the bill for the biggest nuclear cleanup operation ever. Hitherto Norway has spent only 36 million kroner in aid for the East. In the past it has been estimated that it will cost somewhere in the order of \$150 billion to clean up the nuclear chaos on the Kola Peninsula.

"But Norway is assuming a lobbying role to get nuclear safety in northwestern Russia onto the international agenda," Godal said. But who will actually pay the bill, he was asked. "Russia and Europe's taxpayers will have to foot the bill," he said.

Asked whether Norway has plans for further short-term assistance for the Kola region in the absence of a larger-scale international aid operation, he replied: "We are keeping the situation under constant observation, but we have no plans for measures at present. These are sensitive issues on which we naturally want to work closely with the Russian authorities."

In the course of last winter there were several minor accidents at the nuclear power station on the Kola Peninsula, further nuclear submarines were mothballed, and the situation regarding several of the temporary waste dumps—such as the dump ship Lepse, for example—deteriorated dramatically. In the light of this the foreign minister was asked if Finnmark is today facing a real nuclear threat:

"The potential dangers are considerable. But the situation is not acute," Bjorn Tore Godal said.

Yesterday the foreign minister was able to announce that the Russian authorities with the foreign minister at their head have given permission for a third Norwegian-Russian research expedition to former nuclear waste dumping sites in the Kara Sea. Now the way is clear for an expedition to the formerly forbidden Ambrosimov Bay on Novaya Zemlya where there is reason to believe that considerable quantities of solid nuclear waste has been dumped.

The foreign minister's report to the Storting is the first public document on nuclear safety in the Kola region. Hitherto it has been the Bellona Environmental Foundation which, since the fall of the Iron Curtain, has constantly been digging up new information about the piles of radioactive waste the Cold War is leaving behind in the northern regions.

IAEA Chief Urges Completion of DPRK Inspections

OW1304065594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0647 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Hiroshima, April 13 KYODO—The head of the UN nuclear monitoring agency, Hans Blix, on Wednesday [13 April] urged the early completion of nuclear safeguards inspections in North Korea that a team of inspectors was prevented from concluding last month.

Blix, director general of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), stressed that it is necessary to check a radio chemical laboratory in the Yongbyon nuclear power complex about 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang and a 5,000-kilowatt experimental reactor to complete the inspections.

Blix is in Hiroshima for the annual meeting of the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum, which this year is focusing on the theme of eliminating nuclear weapons worldwide and promoting the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

IAEA inspectors were allowed in North Korea last month for their first look at North Korean nuclear facilities in more than a year in an effort to determine if radioactive materials had been diverted to military purposes.

Blix told reporters Wednesday that a check of the radio chemical laboratory was necessary to determine if it had been used since February 1993.

Blix also said that North Korea is nearing completion on construction of a second plutonium production line, which could double the North Korean output of the material needed in building an atomic bomb.

Blix Says IAEA Inspection of DPRK Facilities 'Urgent'

SK1304085894 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 13 Apr 94

[From YONHAP in Tokyo]

[Text] Hans Blix, International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] director-general, stressed that an additional inspection of the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon, which North Korea has been refusing, is urgent, and that IAEA inspectors should be present at the experimental reactor that has an output of 5,000 kw when its fuel is replaced.

Director-general Blix, now visiting Japan, held a news conference on 13 April and said that as the inspection of the radiochemical laboratory, which is believed to be a facility for extraction of plutonium, was not carried out, it cannot be determined if this facility has been used since February 1993. He pointed out that it will become a very serious problem if this situation continues for a long time.

Director-general Blix revealed that the project for building a second production line in the radiochemical laboratory is presently under way, and that this project will be completed before long.

Director-general Blix stressed that North Korea claimed that the fuel was loaded in the experimental reactor for the first time and that plutonium was not extracted from the fuel used in this reactor. An on-the-spot investigation of the reactor by the inspectors is necessary to verify this claim.

Director-general Blix pointed out that in the event that North Korea continues refusing comprehensive inspection of its nuclear facilities, there is the possibility that the IAEA will demand that the UN Security Council take stronger steps and measures.

IAEA Demands DPRK Accept Additional Nuclear Checks

OW1304133594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1324 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Vienna, April 13 KYODO—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has asked North Korea to accept inspections on a key atomic site that Pyongyang barred the agency from checking last month, an agency spokesman said Wednesday [13 April].

The Vienna-based UN nuclear watchdog, however, has not received any response from the country so far, the spokesman said.

Besides additional inspections on the radiochemical laboratory in the Yongbyon nuclear complex, north of the capital, the IAEA has also demanded North Korea allow the agency to change film and batteries of surveillance cameras installed at nuclear facilities there, the spokesman said.

Last month, a six-member IAEA team conducted inspections on North Korea's seven-declared nuclear sites to check that no radioactive material had been diverted from the plants for military purposes.

But Pyongyang refused the team access to the laboratory, thus prompting the agency to refer the issue to the UN Security Council.

The council issued a nonbinding presidential statement March 31 urging North Korea to grant full inspections on its nuclear facilities.

The communist country has denied it is developing a nuclear arsenal and warned that a war could break out on the Korean peninsula if it was pressed too hard on the matter.

DPRK Suggests Conditions To Resume IAEA Inspections

*OW2004104594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT
20 Apr 94*

[Text] New York, April 20 KYODO—North Korea has indicated it is willing to permit further inspections of its nuclear facilities if the United States simultaneously announces the postponement of joint military exercises with South Korea and reopens a third round of high-level talks with Pyongyang.

A special envoy of North Korean President Kim Il-sung earlier this month also reportedly told Indonesian President Suharto that North Korea also wants a postponement to the deployment of U.S. patriot antimissile batteries in South Korea.

Pyongyang's conditions for resuming inspections of its nuclear facilities were revealed in a copy of an April 7 letter from Suharto, head of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali made public Wednesday.

In the letter, Suharto said North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Chang-kyu told him Pyongyang is willing to permit International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections but emphasized the conditions that should be applied simultaneously.

Suharto said the envoy mentioned the "postponement" of the Team Spirit military exercises and the deployment of the Patriot missiles, but dispatches from Pyongyang in the past have firmly demanded the suspension of the exercises and a halt to the missile deployment.

Suharto suggested to Butrus-Ghali that North Korea is seeking the simultaneous commencement of all the steps to avoid any impression that it has capitulated to the demands of the IAEA, the U.S. and others.

Suharto also told North Korea that only way to resolve the nuclear issue peacefully would appear to be through "a comprehensive and thorough implementation of inspections by the IAEA."

Suharto said, "We conveyed to (North Korea) our considered view that it was crucial for the cause of peace in the region that it resolve the issue of nuclear inspection with the IAEA and that (North Korea's) withdrawal from the (Nuclear) Nonproliferation Treaty would only intensify suspicion of its nuclear intentions."

Pyongyang Replies 'Positively' to IAEA Inspection Request

*OW2104012294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0055 GMT
21 Apr 94*

[Text] Vienna, April 20 KYODO—North Korea has replied positively to an IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] request for inspections of a nuclear

facility that Pyongyang barred the agency from checking last month, an agency spokesman said Wednesday [20 April].

The spokesman said the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) received a positive response from North Korea to the UN request and that the agency will decide how to deal with the issue within a few days.

The North appears to have agreed to inspections on a part of the key atomic site with certain conditions, instead of full inspection as the IAEA has demanded, diplomatic sources said.

The IAEA sent a letter to the North on April 8 urging Pyongyang to allow the agency to make additional inspections at the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon, north of the capital.

The IAEA also asked North Korea to allow the agency to change film and batteries of surveillance cameras installed at all the declared nuclear facilities.

IAEA inspectors went to North Korea in early March but were denied access to the radiochemical laboratory. The agency said the tests it wanted to carry out at the laboratory were necessary to determine whether Pyongyang has diverted nuclear materials.

The agency on March 22 referred the matter to the UN Security Council, which issued a presidential statement March 31 urging the North to allow the IAEA to complete the inspections.

North Korea has denied it is developing a nuclear arsenal and warned a war could break out on the Korean peninsula if it was pressed too hard on the matter.

KYODO Reports Further on DPRK Allowing IAEA Inspection

*OW2104101894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT
21 Apr 94*

[Text] Seoul, April 21 KYODO—North Korea has told the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that it will allow inspectors to monitor the exchange of fuel rods at its 5,000-kilowatt nuclear reactor at the Yongbyon nuclear site, the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) reported Thursday [21 April].

Pyongyang, in a telegram sent Wednesday to the UN nuclear watchdog, said it will exchange the fuel rods at the reactor soon and permit IAEA inspectors to monitor the process, according to KBS.

North Korea, however, stopped short of mentioning the possibility of complying with nuclear safeguard obligations by accepting additional inspections of its nuclear installations by the IAEA, KBS said.

The IAEA is reportedly expected to convey its position on the North Korean offer at an early date, the report said.

KBS said that the North Korean proposal seems to aim at breaking the nuclear impasse by making a counterproposal at a time when they are obligated to allow additional international inspections of the radiochemical laboratory.

U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry told a press conference Thursday that North Korea is close to removing the spent fuel from the 5,000-kilowatt nuclear reactor, enabling it to extract enough plutonium to make four or five nuclear bombs.

Perry pointed to the need to monitor the removal of the fuel, saying, "We believe it is critical that this operation is supervised by the International Atomic Energy Agency."

A six-member IAEA inspection team went to North Korea in early March but was denied access to the radiochemical laboratory. The agency said the tests it wanted to carry out at the laboratory were necessary to determine whether Pyongyang has diverted nuclear materials.

The IAEA referred the matter on March 22 to the UN Security Council, which issued a presidential statement on March 31 urging North Korea to allow the nuclear watchdog to complete the inspections.

North Korea denies western assertions that it is developing a nuclear arsenal, but refuses to allow international inspectors into some of its nuclear facilities.

Pyongyang To Allow IAEA To Monitor Fuel Rod Exchange

OW2104093994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0931 GMT 21 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 21 KYODO—North Korea will allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to allow monitoring the exchange of fuel rods at its 5,000-kilowatt nuclear reactor, the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) said Thursday [21 April].

Pyongyang, in a telegram sent Wednesday to the UN nuclear watchdog, said it will exchange the fuel rods at the reactor soon and permit IAEA inspectors to monitor the process, according to KBS.

IAEA Director Says DPRK Building Another Reprocessing Facility

SK1404103994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1010 GMT 14 Apr 94

[Text] In his interview with the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Hans Blix, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], confirmed that North Korea is now constructing another nuclear reprocessing facility within the complex of nuclear facilities in Yongbyon.

In an interview with the paper, Director-General Hans Blix, who is now staying in Japan, said that he could not

know when the facility would be completed, but when it is built, North Korea's capacity of producing plutonium—which will be used for a nuclear weapons program—would double.

Director-General Blix stressed that the IAEA needs to inspect two nuclear facilities which North Korea did not report to the IAEA before in addition to its overall inspection [chonmyon sachal] of the complex of nuclear facilities in Yongbyon.

DPRK Reportedly Asks U.S. To Resume Unofficial Contact

SK1404025394 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 14 April 94 p 2

[Chong Hae-yong reports from Washington]

[Text] North Korea was learnt to have recently proposed to the United States that they resume unofficial working-level contacts to discuss means for a breakthrough in the nuclear issue. This comes at a time when the United States has beefed up firm actions against North Korea's unwillingness to accept nuclear inspections, through consecutive contacts with the ROK, China, and Japan. The talks, however, are unlikely to be realized by next week since U.S. Defense Secretary Perry and Robert Gallucci, the special envoy on the North Korean nuclear issue, will be visiting the ROK, China, and Japan. North Korea also does not usually make moves before or after Kim Il-sung's birthday on 15 April.

A high-level U.S. source on 13 April assessed that North Korea proposed the contact to determine the true intentions of the United States since the United States and the ROK have taken active moves with China, Japan, and Russia aimed at strengthening the international cooperative system following the adoption of the UN Security Council President's statement calling on North Korea to accept inspections. North Korea apparently hopes to resume contacts in order to open a dialogue channel with the United States prior to the next phase of action the UN Security Council may pursue following the early May deadline in the Council President's statement, the source added.

Pyongyang Document on Japan's 'Nuclear Armament'

SK1104112094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 11 Apr 94

["Japan's Nuclear Armament has Reached Danger Line—White Paper of DPRK Foreign Ministry"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 11 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published a white paper on Monday [11 April] exposing Japan's nuclear armament which has reached the danger line.

"The 'Monju,' the first fast breeder reactor of Japan, was put into normal operation on April 5 in defiance of the bitter denunciation and concern worldwide. This means a dangerous step in Japan's nuclear armament," the white paper says.

"Japan's nuclear armament which is being promoted on the danger line," it notes, "is an open challenge to the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the desire of mankind to build a nuclear-free world. This is a question of which the international community must take a serious view."

Follows a summary of the white paper:

1. Japan has sought its nuclear armament from long ago.

Its ambition for nuclear armament has been fully revealed in remarks of successive Japanese authorities and official documents.

Article 9 of the "Constitution of the State of Japan" (Peace Constitution) which was adopted in November 1946 under the strong internal and external demand and pressure says: "The Japanese people, sincerely aspiring after international peace based on justice and order, shall abandon for good and all war, armed threat and armed action through the invocation of state power as a means of resolving international disputes. To this end, they shall not possess the Army, the Navy, the Airforce and other war potential and not recognize the right of belligerency of the state."

The successive Japanese authorities, however, urged by the desire to turn the country into a military power, a nuclear power, have tried by hook or by crook to justify their nuclear armament scheme from the 1950s, totally denying or arbitrarily interpreting the Constitution itself.

On May 7, 1957, the prime minister of Japan, Nobusuke Kishi, said at the Budget Committee of the House of Councillors: "If anyone simply mention the nuclear weapon, all people say it contravenes the Constitution. But such interpretation of the Constitution is wrong. ... [ellipses as received] Without looking into the future development, we cannot say uniformly that it is wrong to mention any kind of nuclear weapon." (Japanese book "Japan's Nuclear Arming Which Has Reached This Stage," 1975)

The Japanese authorities' wild design for nuclear armament was dealt a hard blow by the movement for the ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs which had gained strength within and without Japan from the 1950s. This compelled the Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, quite upset, to announce at the Diet in 1968 the "three nonnuclear principles"—not to manufacture, possess and introduce any nuclear weapon.

For this announcement, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

On June 2, 1969, however, he said at a plenary session of the House of Representatives that "the 'three nonnuclear principles' can be altered any time when the policy is changed or the cabinet is replaced by another" (the above-mentioned book), making it plain that these principles advocated by him were a rhetoric to deceive public opinion at home and abroad.

On March 2, 1978, the Japanese Foreign Minister, Sunao Sonoda, stated at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives that "it is not that Japan cannot possess nuclear weapons, restricted by the provision of the Constitution itself" (the JJI press, March 2, 1978). And, at the Budget Committee of the House of Councillors on March 15, 1984, the Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, answering an interpellation by a Komei Dietman, said that "Japan may possess atomic power, if it is for defence." (Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN, March 16, 1984).

Entering the 1990s, the Japanese authorities, vociferating about the changed international situation, have openly revealed their scheme to step up their nuclear armament at the final stage.

Notably, Japan intends to work out within this year "General Principles of the Defence Programme Reflecting the End of the Cold War and Domestic Situation," holding forth upon the need to build up "defence capabilities to promptly and accurately cope with the possible dangerous events" in neighbouring countries such as "nuclear suspicion" and "missile development" by the DPRK.

Japan openly manifested its design to arm itself with nuclear weapons even on UN rostrums.

Till the first half of the 1960s, the Japanese Government, though reluctantly, voted for resolutions on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons and ban on nuclear weapons at the UN General Assembly. From the latter half of the decade, however, it voted against or abstained from voting on such resolutions, thus disclosing its intention to become a military power, a nuclear power, at any cost by making haste with nuclear development in full scale and producing and stockpiling nuclear weapons. Explaining the reason why they voted against or abstained from voting on the resolutions, they said "total ban on the use of nuclear weapons is incompatible with nuclear deterrent" and it "might destroy the nuclear equilibrium." But, in actuality, this was an open and undisguised revelation on the UN rostrums of Japan's ulterior intention to produce and possess nuclear weapons and pave the way for overseas aggression so that they could use them in case of emergency.

Thus Japan has overtly and covertly manoeuvred ever since the 1950s to adopt its nuclear armament as a policy and legalize it under the veil of "three nonnuclear principles," opposing and distorting the "Peace Constitution."

2. Japan's nuclear armament has reached the danger line.

The nuclear policy of Japan is being promoted in two directions, that is, solving the problem of power by nuclear energy and, at the same time, securing a large quantity of plutonium for the manufacture of nuclear weapons by itself to proceed with nuclear armament any moment.

In July 1966, the first nuclear power station went into operation in Japan. Since then the Japanese Government has considered the construction of nuclear power stations as an important state policy for solving the problem of energy.

According to the director of the high centre of Social Sciences of France, in 1976, the United States made such special concessions to Japan as approving its civilian nuclear development and promising it a continued supply of highly-enriched uranium under a far looser inspection system than other allies in reward for its ratification of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. As a result, Japan has been able to freely reprocess nuclear materials and develop advanced technologies for its rearmament. (Radio France Culture, November 5, 1993).

Japan has already installed sufficient nuclear facilities for its nuclear arming.

At the beginning, the United States, with a view to controlling the nuclear development by Japan, sold to it only light water reactors feeding on U.S.-made enriched uranium and prohibited it from developing atomic reactors of other types. Under this condition, Japan developed a new-type converter mainly feeding on Canadian natural uranium with an investment of 404 million dollars. Situated in Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, this reactor has been in a full-scale operation since 1979. (Japanese book "Imidas" 1992). In this way, Japan has gained relative independence in nuclear development, freeing itself from the control of the United States.

According to the "White Paper on Nuclear Energy" published by the Japanese Government in 1993, Japan has 16 nuclear power stations with 46 reactors in operation, which are capable of producing 37.36 million kw. This means that Japan ranks third in the world after the United States and France in the total designed capacity of nuclear facilities.

1993 alone witnessed the commissioning of 12 new reactors, and 9 units of facilities with a total capacity of 8.9 million kw are under construction. In all this, Japan annually uses some 3,000 tons of nuclear materials.

Japan may become a dangerous nuclear power with its capacity of nuclear weapon production largely expanded when 10 nuclear power stations, one fast breeder reactor, one uranium enriching plant, one radioactive waste storage (low standard) which are now under construction and four nuclear power stations including one new-type converter, one reprocessing plant and one radioactive waste storage (high standard) now projected are put into operation (Japanese book "Imidas," 1992).

Japan has secured enough nuclear materials to arm itself with nuclear weapons.

Japan set itself a long-range goal of depending upon fast breeder reactors feeding on plutonium in the 1950s when it started the development of atomic energy and it has produced and stockpiled a large quantity of nuclear materials by operating reprocessing plants from the middle of the 1970s.

Japan has stockpiled 26 tons of plutonium which far surpasses the quantity needed for the peaceful purpose. It is enough to manufacture more than 3,000 atomic bombs of Nagasaki type. (Japanese magazine "BUNGEI SHUNJU," June 1992).

Japan buckled down to the implementation of its "great programme for the use of plutonium" at the beginning of 1992.

In the period from 1975 to 1992, it brought in one ton of plutonium from Britain in top secrecy and reportedly shipped in 1.5 tons of plutonium from France in 1993.

What offers particular problem is that Japan plans to secure about 100 tons of plutonium by the year 2010, though the amount of plutonium actually needed by Japan is estimated at 85 tons. (KYODO News Service, October 5, 1992). This means that, by 2010, Japan will store 15 more tons of plutonium than needed for the peaceful purpose, which is enough to manufacture some 2,000 nuclear bombs. Therefore, Japan's claim that it has stockpiled "an appropriate amount of plutonium for economic development" can never be justified.

A latest report on the nonproliferation of nuclear materials including plutonium, which an influential advisory agency worked out, entrusted by the U.S. Defence Department, expressed deep concern over Japan's nuclear armament and said Japan should be urged to fundamentally reexamine its nuclear policy, demanding a stop to the project of the demonstration reactor for a fast breeder reactor.

Urging Japan to reduce the scale of the construction of nuclear power stations with 12 reactors feeding on plutonium planned to be completed by the year 2005 (to two) and stop the construction of a new-type demonstration reactor following the "Monju" and the construction of the reprocessing plant no. 2 in Rokashomura, Aomori Prefecture, the report said potential fear of Japan's nuclear arming is sprouting within the U.S. Government. (Japanese MAINICHI SHIMBUN, November 10, 1993).

Voice of America on April 6, 1994 said that the commissioning of a fast breeder reactor in Japan is arousing serious apprehensions and uneasiness in the European countries and the United States, to say nothing of its neighbouring nations, and it is foreseen that it would give a greater shock to the acute nuclear issue. This indicates that Japan might become one of the largest nuclear state in the near future, the radio added.

Japan is possessed of modern means of nuclear delivery.

The so-called "Self-Reliant Defence Programme" worked out by the Japanese Defence Agency in 1969 makes it plain that Japan would continue to develop and possess domestic nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles for their delivery. (Japanese ASAHI EVENING NEWS, June 27, 1969).

Japan's system of launching nuclear warheads was established already during the "Third Program of Readjustment of the Defence Capacities" (1967-1971). The Japanese Defence Agency completed the "domestic production" of cruise missiles in 1985 in cooperation with the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and other companies. This cruise missile is a sophisticated guided missile which is available for the delivery of nuclear warheads and conventional warheads.

The Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" successfully carried out a test launching of a Japanese ground-to-warship missile (SSM-1) at the Pacific Missile Centre of the U.S. Navy in California in the summer of 1987. (the Japanese magazine "SEKAI SEIJI." First semimonthly number of January 1990).

As of December 1991, Japan was possessed of 393 155-mm howitzers and 132 203.2-mm howitzers which can fire nuclear warheads. The number of its nuclear-capable planes is on the steady increase.

It had secured 145 new-type fighter-bombers "F-15" with an action radius of 1,052 km by 1991. It plans to increase its number to 180- 200 by the end of 1994.

It developed a new fighter-bomber "FSX" by remodeling the "F-16" in 1993 and plans to introduce 130 of it by the year 2000.

On February 4, 1994, Japan successfully launched a new "H2"-type rocket no. 1 developed entirely by its independent technology at the cosmodrome in Tanegashima, Kagoshima Prefecture. This rocket is tantamount to 50 metres in length and 260 tons in weight and can be converted easily for a military purpose.

The former director of the Atomic Energy Research Centre of Rikkyo University, Japan, stated that Japan has been able to make substantial material and technological preparations for manufacturing high-performance nuclear weapons in one month or so. More than 150 companies and over 3,300 factories are involved in the manufacture of nuclear warheads in Japan. In recent years, investments in this domain have sharply increased to jump from 1.73 million dollars in 1954 to 360 million dollars in 1991. (The Indian paper WORUM, March 11, 1994).

In actuality, Japan has built perfect material and technological foundations for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Concern over Japan's nuclear armament is expressed by government authorities of Western countries including the United States.

If Japan is armed with nuclear weapons, it will pose the most serious and grave threat to the Korean peninsula and, furthermore, it will harass peace and security of Asia and the rest of the world.

With Japan's nuclear armament reaching the danger line, the danger of the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula being made meaningless is increasing.

Though Japan is promoting its nuclear armament on the danger line, the United States and other Western countries are turning blind eyes to this and carrying on a hysteric pressure campaign over the fictitious "suspected nuclear development" by the DPRK. This policy of double standard, in fact, eggs Japan on to nuclear armament.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses the belief that the governments, parliaments, political parties and organisations of all the anti-nuke and nonnuclear states and international organisations and peace-loving people of the world will heighten vigilance against the dangerous moves of the Japanese authorities for nuclear armament and make positive contributions to the peace and security of Asia and the world by checking and frustrating them.

DPRK, Iran Reportedly Agree To Build Missile Plant

SK1104145494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1400 GMT 11 Apr 94

[Report by correspondent Yu Ki-yun from Tokyo]

[Text] Japan's Fuji Television Broadcast reported on 11 April that North Korea and Iran agreed to establish a plant to produce No Dong No. 1 missiles in Iran. Such a fact was revealed in an interview with Paul (Beaver), a military commentator for JANE'S, while appearing in a feature program entitled, "Areas of Dispute in the World." He said that this project is being promoted secretly under the password (Ronda-68).

When considering the level of the North Korean military force, Paul (Beaver) analyzed that North Korea has the ability to attack Seoul within 24 hours. He claimed that a response to the enemy by the United States through an immediate military intervention is inevitable for security on the Korean peninsula.

IAEA Chief Praises Tehran's Cooperation

LD1904155694 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Mr. Hans Blix, the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today and expressed satisfaction about Iran's cooperation with that agency. He spoke about the proposal to create nuclear weapons-free zones and described some of the activities of the agency.

Our country's foreign minister, for his part, referred in the meeting to the threats posed to international peace and security by some nuclear weapons-producing countries, expressed displeasure about the fact that the Quds [Jerusalem]-occupying regime has not signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and called for the cooperation of all countries with the IAEA and their adherence to international regulations in this regard.

The IAEA director general also spoke in an interview with our correspondent and, referring to the constructive cooperation of Iran with that agency, praised the Iranian authorities' close cooperation with the agency's representatives in connection with the inspection of nuclear facilities. Mr. Velayati, for his part, said in the interview: We respect the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and we reserve the right to make peaceful use of atomic energy just as other member countries.

KCNA Highlights Foreign Ministry Memorandum on IAEA Inspections

*SK2004051494 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0436 GMT 20 Apr 94*

["DPRK Foreign Ministry Warns the U.S. and IAEA Not To Resort To Pressure"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a memorandum today warns that if the United States and the secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency continue to resort to the unreasonable pressure campaign, the nuclear issue will remain unresolved indefinitely and it will only entail irretrievable consequences jeopardizing peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

The memorandum was published in connection with the fact that the United States and its satellite forces have resorted to the one-track course of pressure by enjoining fullscope inspections on the DPRK with disregard to the unique status of the DPRK which has temporarily suspended the effectuation of its declared withdrawal from the treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). It throws a revealing light on the major obstacles to the solution of the nuclear issue and the truth behind them.

It says that although the United States and the secretariat of the IAEA recognized the DPRK's unique status following the temporary suspension of the effectuation of its announced withdrawal from the NPT, they are still talking about the "noncompliance with the safeguards agreement" and "full inspection." "Such action clearly shows that they are using the safeguards agreement as a leverage for attaining their dishonest political objectives of strangling the DPRK's system," it notes.

Pointing out that the inspection activities that befit the DPRK's current unique status are only the inspection activities necessary for maintaining the continuity of safeguards, it declares: "How long the DPRK's unique

status will last depends entirely on when the United States renounces its nuclear threat against the DPRK and its policy of antagonizing and strangling it and, at the same time, when the agency redresses its partiality and injustice to the DPRK."

The memorandum further says:

"The DPRK's unique status would naturally terminate if further round of DPRK-USA talks take place and the simultaneous action steps are carried into practice with a view to resolving the nuclear issue once and for all on the principle of the proposed package solution."

It notes that the IAEA secretariat and the United Nations Security Council, both in support of the U.S. policy of antagonizing and strangling the DPRK, are openly applying their extremely discriminatory and prejudiced double standards to the DPRK's "nuclear issue."

"Unless the United States renounces its policy of hostility and nuclear threat campaign against the DPRK and unless the IAEA secretariat redresses its partiality and injustice to the DPRK, the DPRK's reinstatement in the treaty will remain absolutely inconceivable and, therefore, full implementation of the safeguards agreement will have no sense of word at the present stage," states the memorandum, and continues:

"The DPRK sincerely wants the nuclear issue to be resolved impartially. To this end, the United States and the IAEA secretariat must clearly realise their responsibility for the origination of the nuclear issue and for its current complexity, stop resorting to the unreasonable and contradictory method of double standards and pressure, and must seek unprejudiced and substantial ways to resolve the nuclear issue once and for all."

PRC Diplomat Discusses Iraq, Arms Sales To Pakistan, Korea

*NC0804145194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1313 GMT
8 Apr 94*

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Apr (MENA)—Chinese Ambassador in Cairo Yang Fuchang has said his country's government and people welcome President Hosni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to Beijing. In an interview with MENA, he said President Mubarak is an old friend of China and that this visit will be his sixth trip to China. He noted that every time he visits China, President Mubarak gives new momentum to the good traditional bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

The Chinese ambassador stressed the need to honor Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 on the Middle East and hoped that the Jerusalem issue will be resolved through negotiations.

On lifting the economic sanctions on Iraq, he explained that they were imposed under particular circumstances but that if we now look at the situation objectively, we will find that Iraq has responded to the Council's recent resolutions. So, he said, sanctions on the humanitarian

level must be lifted, primarily to secure food and medicine for the Iraqi people and, as the implementation of the resolutions continues, other sanctions can be lifted, something that is currently being discussed at the Security Council.

On China's arms sales to Pakistan, he said the purchase and sale of arms is something normal in relations between states. The United States, France, and other big powers also sell arms. He added: Our selling arms to Pakistan does not mean we support one party at the expense of another. And it does not mean there is intervention in other countries' internal affairs, so the situation in the region is not aggravated.

Commenting on the Korean issue, the Chinese ambassador said his country believes that the best way to solve the problem is through negotiations between the United States and Korea, between Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and between the two Koreas. He said China stresses that the Korean Peninsula should be free of nuclear weapons and it believes the imposition of sanctions does not help to solve problems but rather complicates them. [passage omitted]

XINHUA 'Roundup' on Patriot Deployment, DPRK Reaction

OW0704063694 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service
in Chinese 0421 GMT 7 Apr 94

["Roundup" by reporter Gao Haorong (7559 3185 2837): "The United States Deploys Guided Missiles and the DPRK Opposes the Exertion of Pressure"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 7 Apr (XINHUA).--Acting on U.S. President Clinton's 21 March orders, two U.S. transport ships carrying 48 Patriot missile launchers set sail from Oakland in early April and are scheduled to arrive in the ROK before the end of the month. It has been reported the Patriots will be deployed around Seoul.

As early as the beginning of the year, the United States and the ROK agreed in principle to deploy Patriot missiles on U.S. military bases in the ROK to deal with "threats from the North." The missile deployment plan was strongly criticized by the DPRK. Later, the situation on the Korean Peninsula became relaxed; the Patriot missile deployment plan was shelved after the DPRK reached agreements separately with the IAEA and the United States on the settlement of the nuclear issue, and North and South Korea resumed consultations on an exchange of special envoys.

Recently, the settlement of the DPRK nuclear issue again encountered difficulties as the various parties have completely different appraisals of the results of the IAEA's early March inspection of the DPRK's nuclear facilities. Against such a background, the United States has revived its plan to deploy Patriot missiles in the ROK.

The U.S. deployment of Patriot missiles aroused strong opposition from the DPRK. On 28 March, a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement saying the Patriot missiles to be deployed to the ROK are an improved model, which can be used as an offensive weapon and can hit any target on the Korean Peninsula due to the local terrain. For this reason, the U.S. description of the Patriot deployment as "purely defensive" is groundless. Moreover, the deployment seriously violates relevant provisions of the Korea armistice agreement and it is a "dangerous military action" intensifying the situation on the Korean Peninsula. The DPRK has repeatedly reiterated that it hopes the nuclear issue will be resolved through dialogue, and the exertion of pressure will not resolve the issue but will only make it more complex.

Over the last several days, there have been mass rallies in Pyongyang, Haeju, and Kaesong Cities, opposing the U.S. deployment of nuclear weapons in the ROK; and criticizing the U.S. action as an "open threat" to the DPRK and as an intentional act to worsen the situation on the Korean Peninsula. Participants in the rallies have demanded the United States halt the Patriot missile deployment immediately, and have said they will be on the alert against the U.S. action.

Russia To Help Set Up Nuclear Plant in Bushehr NC1304203194 Cairo MENA in English 1938 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Tehran, April 13 (MENA)—Iran has started setting up a nuclear power plant in Bushehr Province south of Tehran with the aid of Russian experts.

An informed Iranian source told reporters today that an agreement was reached with the Russian authorities a few months ago on the implementation of the first phase of the facility.

Construction of the project, which will take four years to operate with full capacity, started in March, the source said. As much as 30,000 tonnes of necessary materials were transported from Germany to Iran, he said. The German Government refused however to ferry another 7,000 tonnes, he added. [word's indistinct]

India to Supply Heavy Water to ROK BK0804125994 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 8 Apr 94

[Text] New Delhi is to supply 100 tons of heavy water for a nuclear power plant in South Korea. Under an agreement signed in Seoul today, the heavy water subject to international atomic energy safeguards will be shipped in 1997-98. The deal worth \$23 million is the first major commercial export of heavy water from India which is its leading producer in the world.

Tokyo Gives Aid to Kazakhstan To Dismantle Nuclear Arms

*OW0704145294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1433 GMT
7 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday [7 April] Japan will allocate 11 million dollars to Kazakhstan to help dismantle its nuclear weapons, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Hosokawa made the announcement in a meeting with Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, who arrived in Japan on Wednesday for a four-day visit.

The amount is part of a total of 100 million dollars Japan pledged last year to help four former Soviet republics—Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan—dismantle their nuclear weapons.

The officials said detailed use of the 11 million dollars will be decided in discussions between the two sides at a committee on cooperation for the destruction of nuclear weapons.

Hosokawa praised Kazakhstan's efforts to denuclearize, democratize and shift toward a market-oriented economy, they said.

Kazakhstan joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) as a nonnuclear weapon state last November.

Nazarbayev, 53, asked for Japanese cooperation in helping his country tackle environmental pollution at the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing site and in the Aral Sea, the officials said.

Specifically, he requested cooperation in providing medical equipment for hospitals treating people exposed to radioactivity near Semipalatinsk.

Hosokawa said Japan will seriously consider cooperation with the hospitals, which the ministry officials said is expected to be covered by the 11 million dollars.

An estimated 233 million tons of radioactive substances are believed to be left in Kazakhstan.

As for environmental problems in the Aral Sea, Hosokawa said the problem should be solved internationally but added Japan would study what it can do, the officials said.

Also during the 30-minute meeting, followed by an hourlong dinner, Nazarbayev, 53, said he supports Japan's bid to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

A joint statement signed by the two leaders prior to the meeting said Kazakhstan "expressed the hope" that Japan would become a permanent member of the Security Council and "fulfill its relevant responsibilities."

Hosokawa told Nazarbayev Japan intends to fulfill its responsibilities within its capabilities, the officials said.

On the international front, the Kazakhstan president proposed holding a conference covering the whole of Asia to build trust.

Hosokawa agreed on the importance of creating trust in Asia but expressed reluctance to set up a forum covering the whole region such as the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Nazarbayev asked Japan to offer its manufacturing technology to Central Asia and suggested setting up a committee between Japan and Kazakhstan to study such a possibility.

Hosokawa suggested the two sides utilize the existing bilateral economic committee.

Nazarbayev also offered a list of 1,394 Japanese prisoners of war detained in Siberia who died in Kazakhstan, the officials said.

On Friday, Nazarbayev is to meet Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and give a press conference later in the day.

Egyptian Paper Faults U.S. Attitude to Israeli Nuclear Weapons

*NC1404071294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0602 GMT
14 Apr 94*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Apr (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AKHBAR has voiced astonishment at the U.S. Administration overlooking Israel's nuclear capability. It asserts that this oversight is not the result of ignorance, because the Israeli nuclear enterprise is known to all intelligence services.

In an editorial today, AL-AKHBAR refers to remarks made by U.S. sources that Israel will acquire 45 F-15E combat aircraft. It points out that this is the first time the United States has agreed to sell this sophisticated type of aircraft and says that these planes will enable the Israeli air force to carry out strikes against Libya, Iraq, and Iran.

AL-AKHBAR remarks that this raises questions about the U.S. position on Israel and causes much astonishment.

The paper asserts that the U.S. attitude to nuclear weapon proliferation is contradictory; while it pressures North Korea to open its nuclear facilities to international inspection, going as far as to threaten air strikes against it, it disregards any discussion of Israel's nuclear weapons, long deployed in the Negev.

AL-AKHBAR denounces the Israeli Government's refusal to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in clear defiance of the international community. The paper says the Israeli intelligence services occasionally leak reports about the country's nuclear weapons so as to frighten Arab countries near and far.

Italy Offers Nuclear Assistance to Ukraine
*LD0604094094 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in English 0000 GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] The Italian Government has offered Ukraine assistance in the elimination of nuclear weapons.

This was reported at the briefing at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry today by Deputy Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk. The volume of this assistance as well as

concrete programs are due to be discussed during a planned official visit of President Leonid Kravchuk to Italy.

It was also reported at the briefing that Polish Defense Minister Piotr Kolodziejczyk is due to begin his visit to Kiev on 6 April. Information was given on the meeting held between Hennadiy Udovenko, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Poland, and the Polish defense minister. The parties discussed issues of cooperation between the servicemen of the two countries, as well as perspectives of joint activity within the Partnership for Peace program.

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